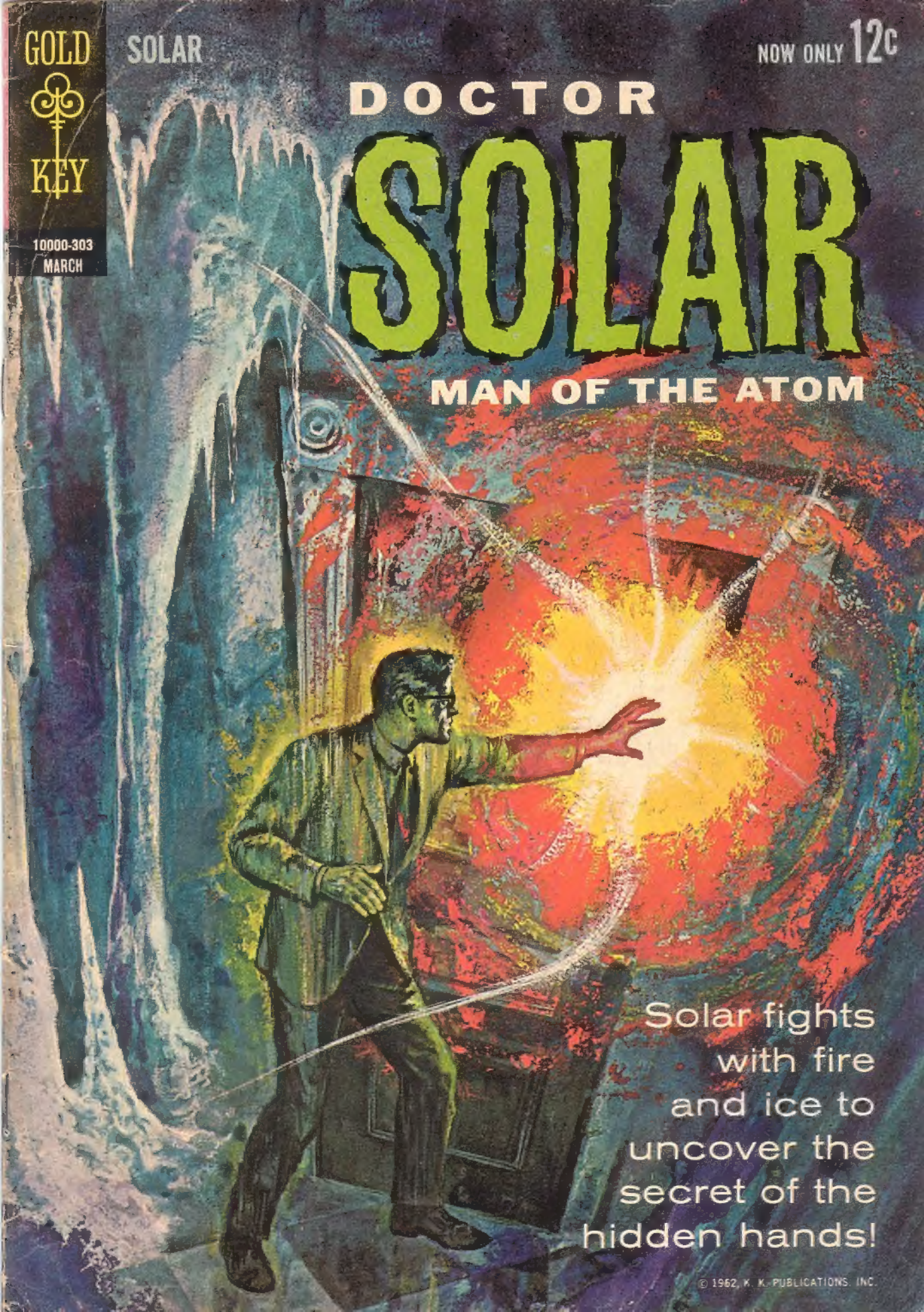
GOLD KEY
10000-303 MARCH
SOLAR
NOW ONLY 12c
DOCTOR
SOLAR
MAN OF THE ATOM
Solar fights with fire and ice to uncover the secret of the hidden hands!
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KEYS OF KNOWLEDGE

The SEA

NUMBER 7

ISLANDS

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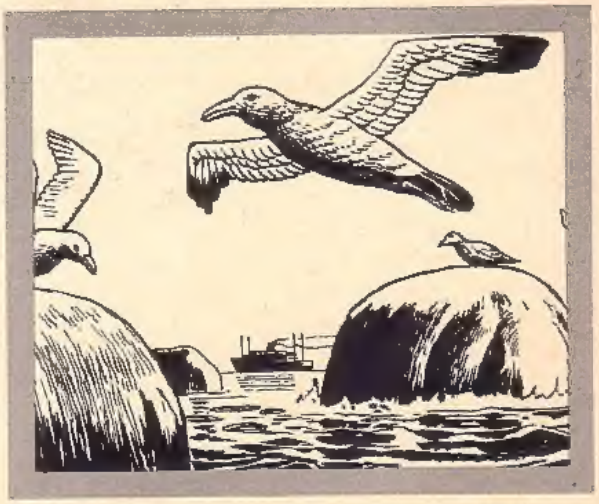
This is one of a series of information features in Gold Key Comics. Collect the whole series for useful knowledge.

Most ocean islands are the tops of underwater mountains. Mauna Kea in Hawaii is the top of a 31,000 foot underwater mountain.

Such islands are the results of underwater volcanoes. Erupting below the surface, the volcano slowly rises above the ocean waves.



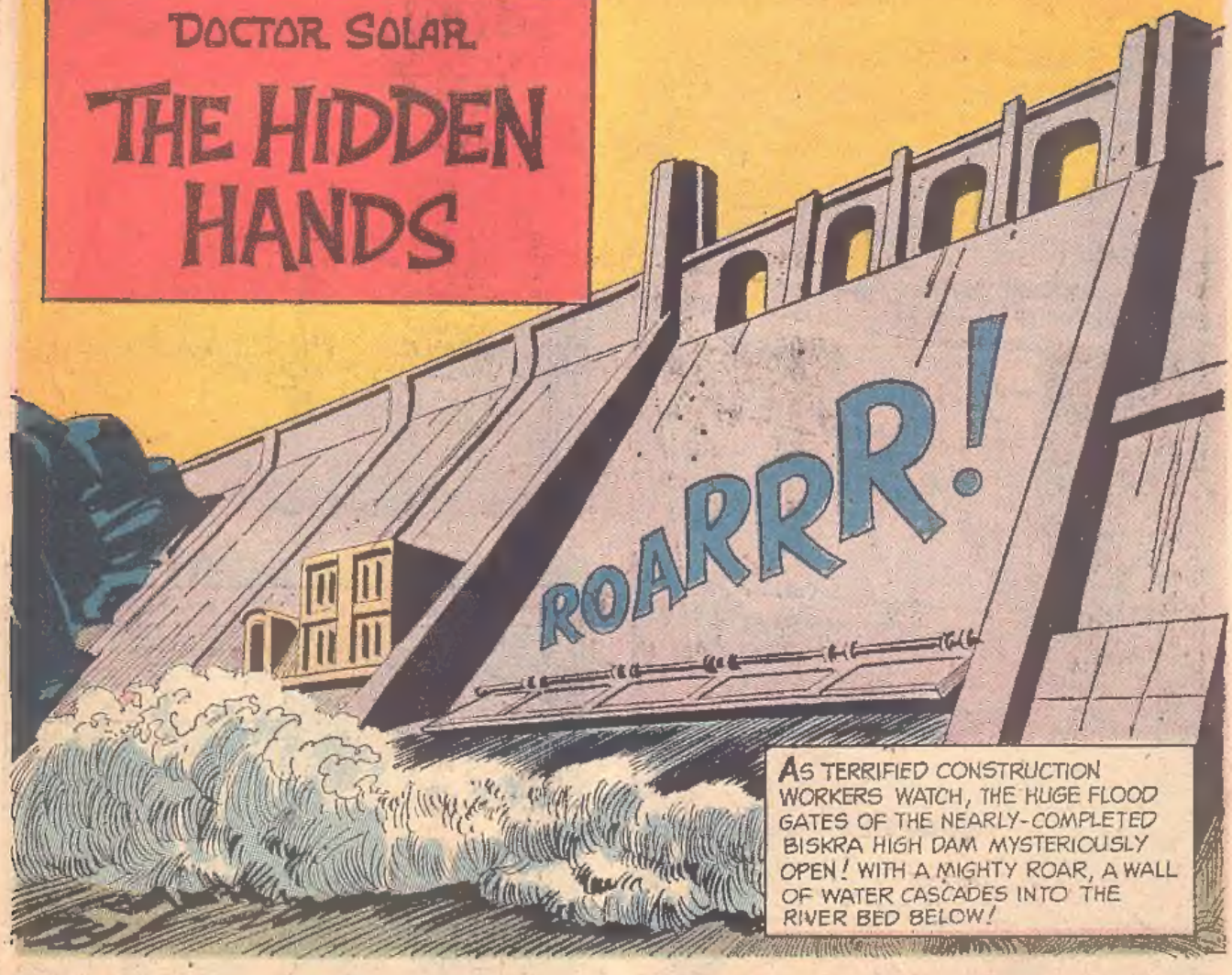
Another type of island is the St. Paul's Rocks in the Atlantic. Those tiny islands are made of rocks thrust up from the sea bottom.

In the warm waters around the equator coral reefs are found. These are chains of small islands rising just a few feet above water.

While all other type islands rise from the ocean bottom, these are formed by piles of skeletons of a sea creature called coral.

DOCTOR SOLAR

THE HIDDEN HANDS


ROARRR!
AS TERRIFIED CONSTRUCTION WORKERS WATCH, THE HUGE FLOOD GATES OF THE NEARLY-COMPLETED BISKRA HIGH DAM MYSTERIOUSLY OPEN! WITH A MIGHTY ROAR, A WALL OF WATER CASCADES INTO THE RIVER BED BELOW!

POSTMASTER: Please send notice on Form 3579 to K.K. Publications, Inc., Poughkeepsie, New York.
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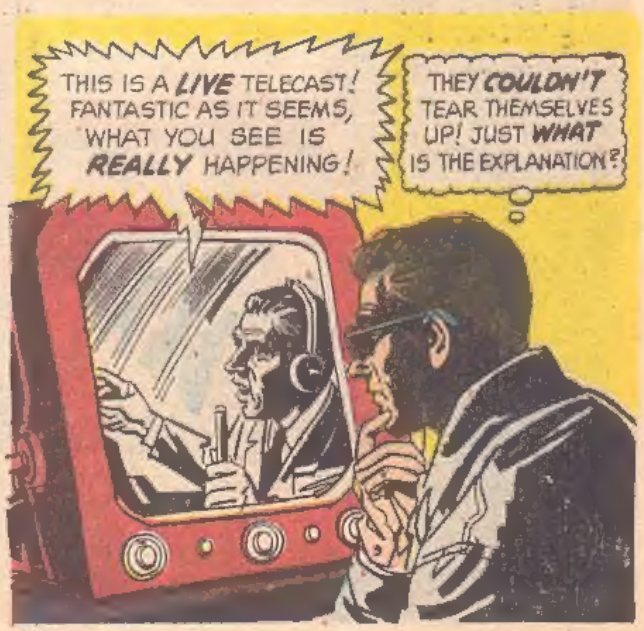
CHANGES OF ADDRESS should reach us five weeks in advance of the next issue date. Give both your old and new address enclosing if possible your old address label.

THAT EVENING, AT ATOM VALLEY, DR. SOLAR RELAXES IN HIS SPECIAL LEAD-LINED LAB...
--THE CAUSE OF THE ACCIDENT IS STILL UNEXPLAINED!

--AND NOW, DIRECT FROM UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS, WE ARE WITNESSING THE FINAL VOTE FOR THE ELECTION OF A NEW GENERAL SECRETARY.

SUDDENLY, ANOTHER MYSTERY!
WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THE BALLOT BOX?

THE BALLOTS ARE TEARING THEMSELVES TO BITS! STOP THEM!
STOP-- HOW?


THIS IS A LIVE TELECAST! FANTASTIC AS IT SEEMS, WHAT YOU SEE IS REALLY HAPPENING!
THEY COULDN'T TEAR THEMSELVES UP! JUST WHAT IS THE EXPLANATION?

TWO DAYS LATER, IN THE LOUVRE, FAMED FRENCH MUSEUM...
GUARD!--A STATUE IS WALKING AWAY!
PLEASE, MADAME!

THERE!--SEE FOR YOURSELF!

I-IT HAS STOPPED! BUT HOW DID IT WALK?

THE FOLLOWING DAY, IN THE STAID OFFICES OF THE BANK OF ENGLAND...
I SAY!--MUST BE A STRONG DRAUGHT IN HERE!

CRASH!
NO DRAUGHT COULD HAVE DONE THAT!

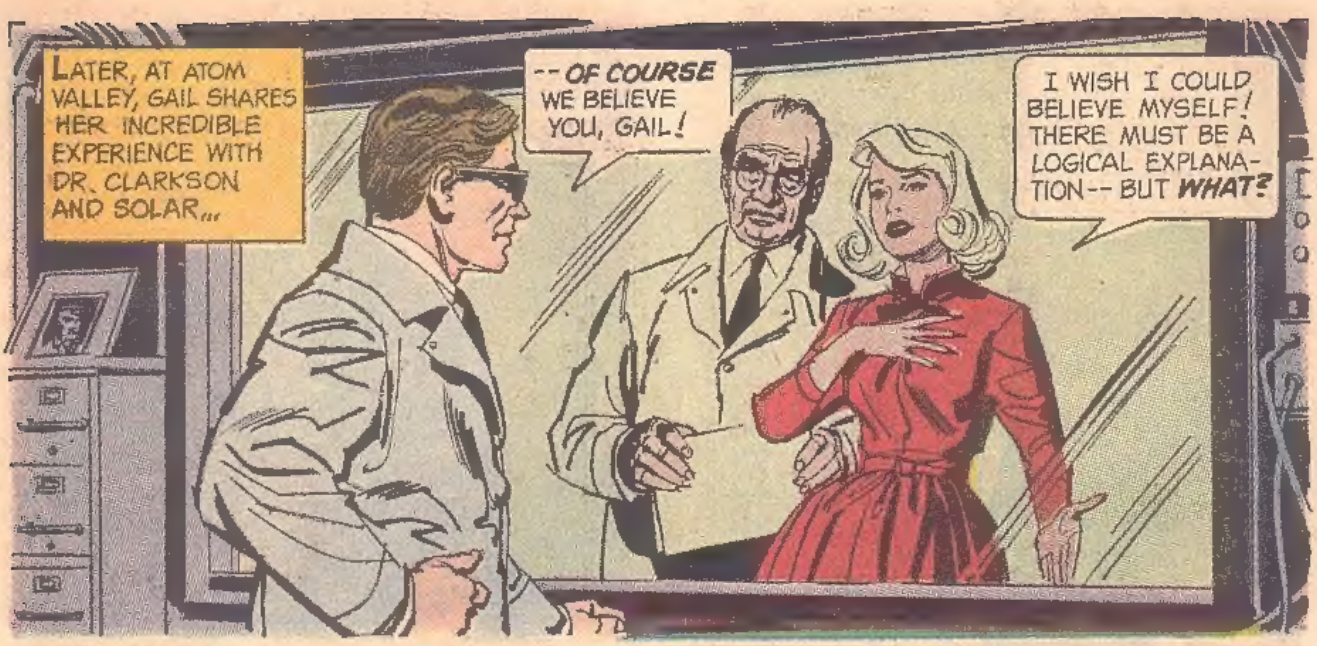
LOOK! IT'S RAINING MONEY!

THE NEXT DAY, AS ATOM VALLEY'S GAIL SANDERS FLIES HOME FROM A SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE WITH A PROMINENT BUSINESS MAN--
--THIS WAS A VERY SUCCESSFUL TRIP FOR ME! THESE PAPERS IN MY BRIEFCASE ARE WORTH MILLIONS!

SUDDENLY, THE PRECIOUS BRIEFCASE LEAPS INTO THE AIR!
M-MY BRIEF-CASE!

THE DOOR OF THE PLANE OPENS...
GET MY BRIEFCASE!
--KEEP BACK! YOU COULD BE DRAWN RIGHT OUT OF THE CABIN!

--AND AS THE AIRLINER HEADS FOR THE OPEN SEA, GAIL AND THE ASTONISHED PASSENGERS GAPE AT A FANTASTIC SIGHT BELOW!


LATER, AT ATOM VALLEY, GAIL SHARES HER INCREDIBLE EXPERIENCE WITH DR. CLARKSON AND SOLAR...
--OF COURSE WE BELIEVE YOU, GAIL!
I WISH I COULD BELIEVE MYSELF! THERE MUST BE A LOGICAL EXPLANATION-- BUT WHAT?

A LOT OF STRANGE THINGS HAVE BEEN HAPPENING LATELY, GAIL. I'VE KEPT A FILE ON MOST OF THEM. LET'S SEE WHAT THE COMPUTER MAKES OF IT ALL!

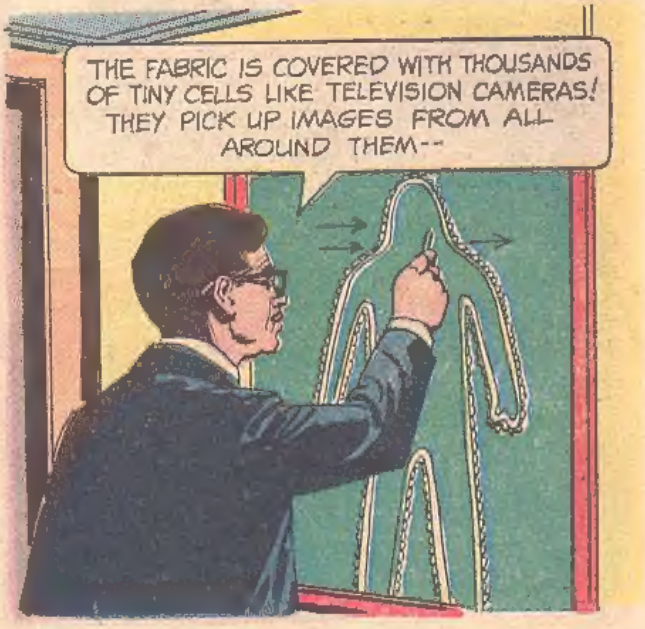
MEANWHILE, AT A CAREFULLY-CONCEALED HIDEAWAY, THE MYSTERIOUS MAN KNOWN ONLY AS NURO BEGINS A STRANGE INTERVIEW...
YOU HAVE DONE WELL, GANTRY!
THANK YOU, SIR!

...FROM BEHIND A ONE-WAY WINDOW!
I DON'T LIKE TALKING TO SOMEONE I CAN'T SEE. REMOVE YOUR INVISIBLE SUIT!

SLOWLY THE FIGURE OF A MAN TAKES SHAPE AS DR. GANTRY FOLLOWS NURO'S ORDERS.

ALL OF MY TESTS WERE SUCCESSFUL, SIR!--I WALKED PAST THE GUARDS IN THE BANK OF ENGLAND--AND I WAS EVEN SEEN, OR RATHER NOT SEEN, ON TELEVISION FROM THE UN!

EXPLAIN AGAIN HOW THIS SUIT OF YOURS WORKS!
IT'S QUITE SIMPLE--


THE FABRIC IS COVERED WITH THOUSANDS OF TINY CELLS LIKE TELEVISION CAMERAS! THEY PICK UP IMAGES FROM ALL AROUND THEM--

--WIRES CARRY THOSE IMAGES TO OTHER CELLS THAT WORK LIKE TELEVISION RECEIVERS! ANYTHING BETWEEN THEM SEEMS TO BE INVISIBLE!

IT TOOK YEARS TO APPLY MY THEORY TO THIS SUIT!
--NOW WE'LL MAKE MANY LIKE IT!

I'M POWERLESS TO RESIST YOU, BUT I BEG YOU NOT TO USE MY DISCOVERY FOR ANY MORE EVIL!
I WILL DECIDE THAT-- NOT YOU!

TAKE HIM AWAY!

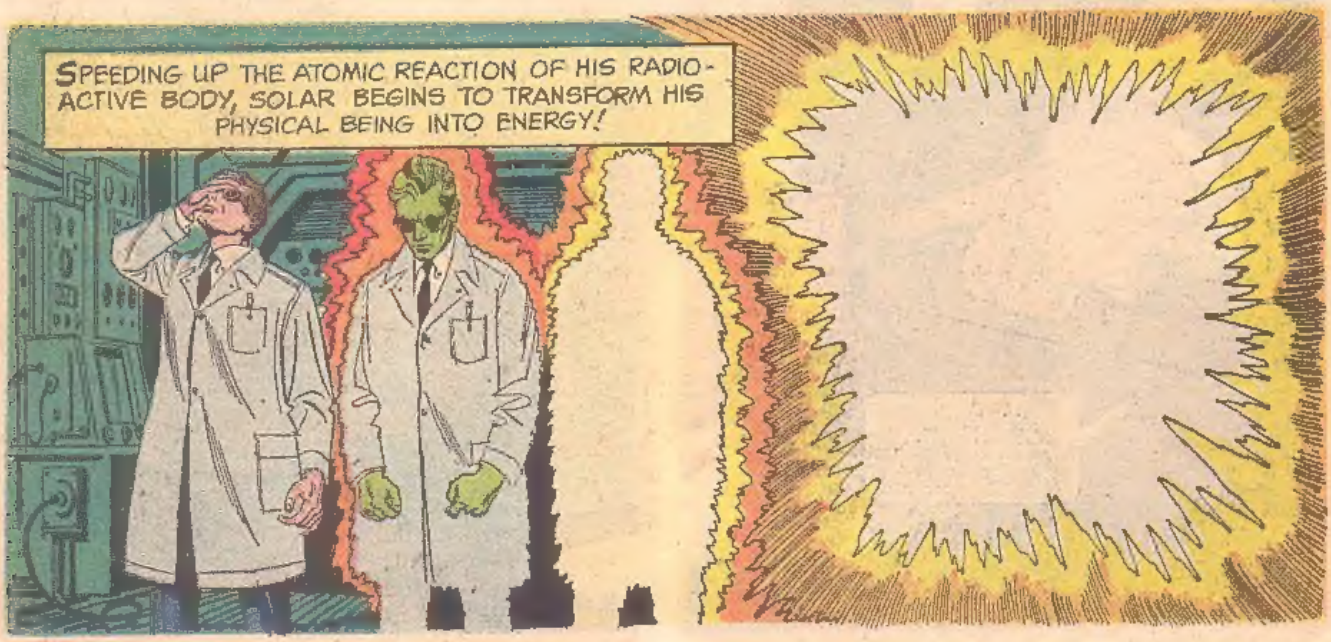
PUT HIM COMPLETELY IN MY POWER FOR THE FINAL TEST!

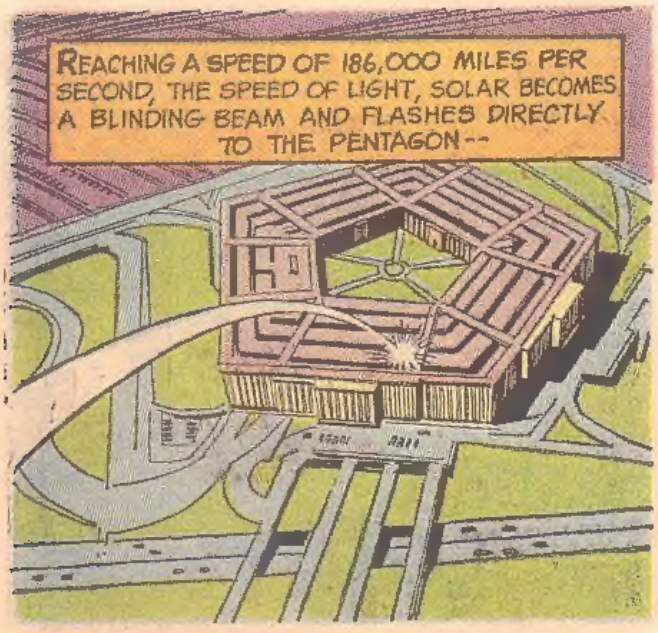
LATER, IN ATOM VALLEY...
EVEN OUR ELECTRONIC BRAIN IS BAFFLED!
THERE MUST BE A LOGICAL EXPLANATION!

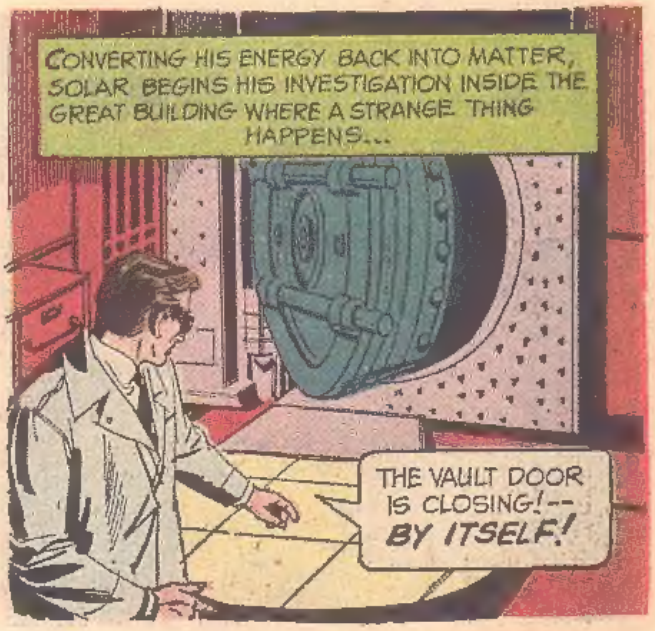
DR. CLARKSON! PHONE CALL-- EMERGENCY!

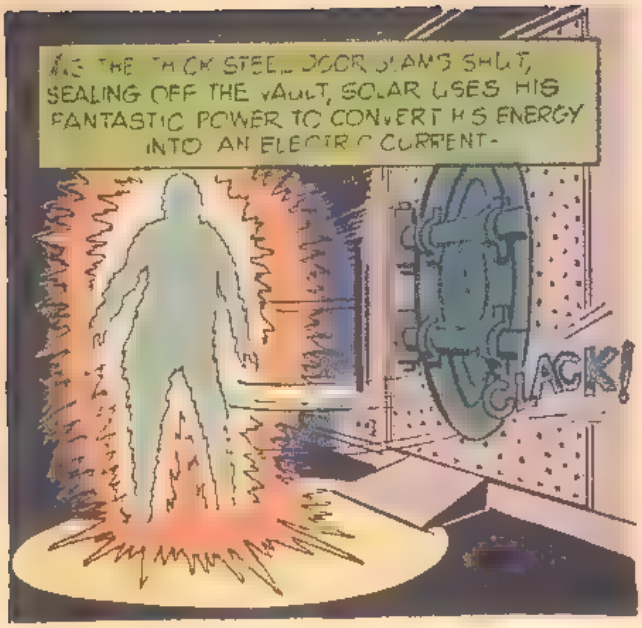
CLARKSON HERE!
DOCTOR, THIS IS THE PRESIDENT! WE NEED DR. SOLAR HERE!

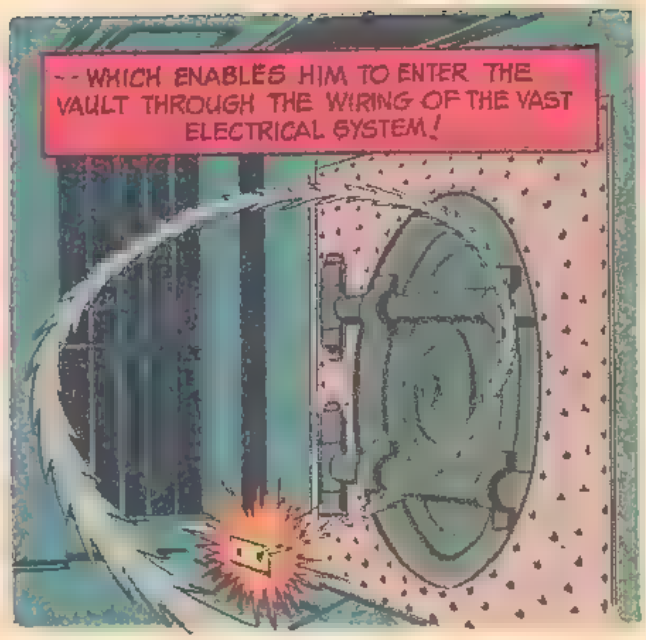
THIS MYSTERY HAS REACHED THE PENTAGON IN WASHINGTON! THE PRESIDENT HAS ASKED FOR YOUR HELP THERE!

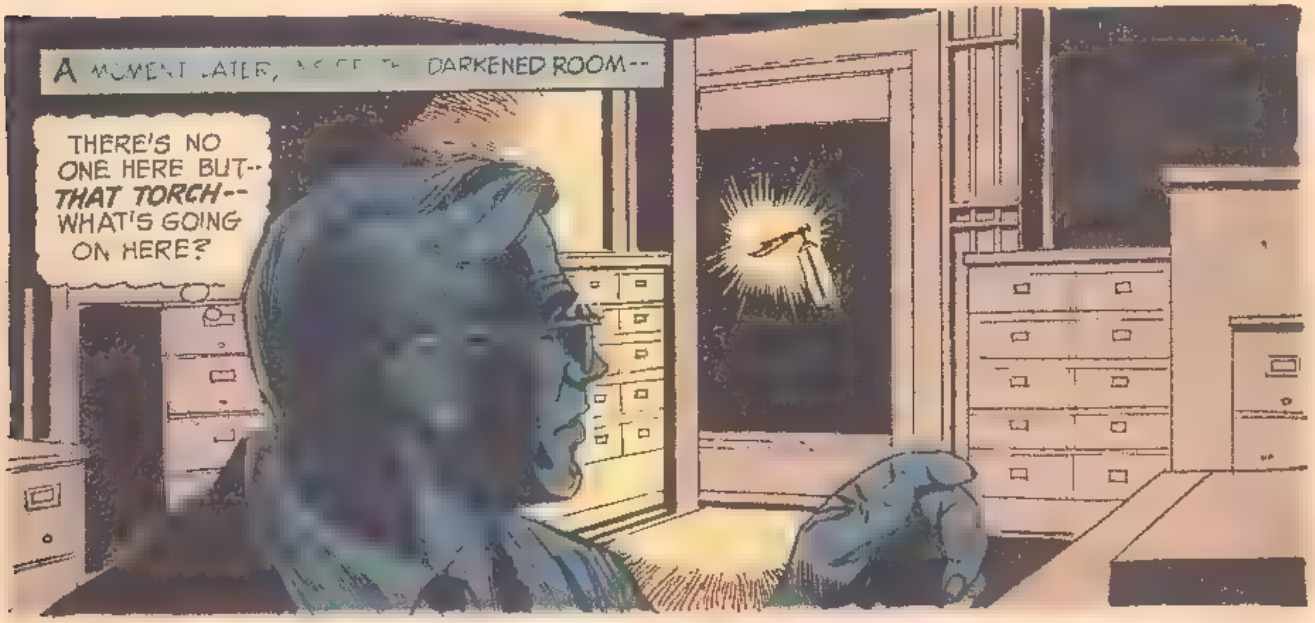

SPEEDING UP THE ATOMIC REACTION OF HIS RADIO-ACTIVE BODY, SOLAR BEGINS TO TRANSFORM HIS PHYSICAL BEING INTO ENERGY!

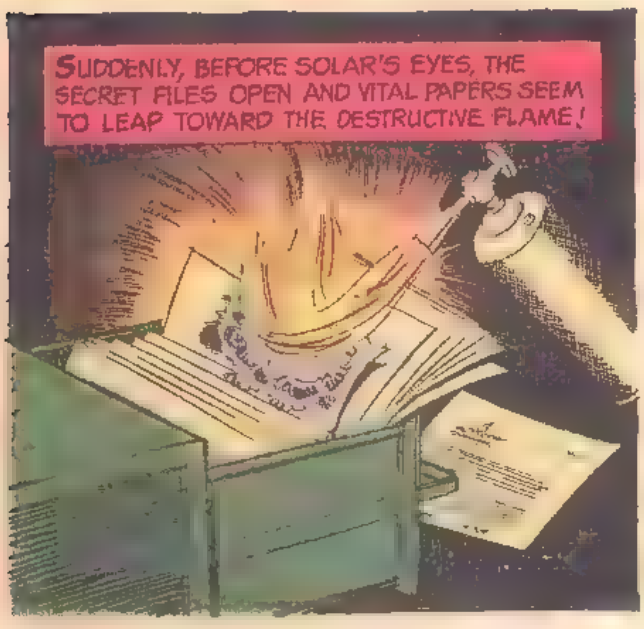

REACHING A SPEED OF 186,000 MILES PER SECOND, THE SPEED OF LIGHT, SOLAR BECOMES A BLINDING BEAM AND FLASHES DIRECTLY TO THE PENTAGON--

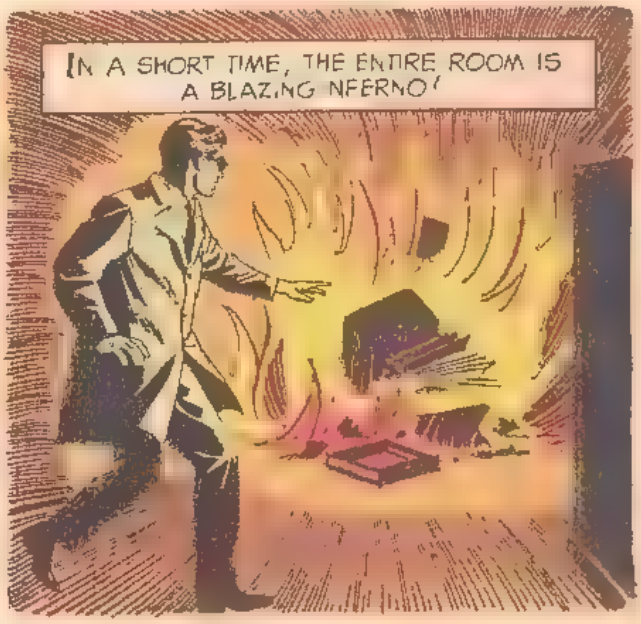

CONVERTING HIS ENERGY BACK INTO MATTER, SOLAR BEGINS HIS INVESTIGATION INSIDE THE GREAT BUILDING WHERE A STRANGE THING HAPPENS...
THE VAULT DOOR IS CLOSING!-- BY ITSELF!

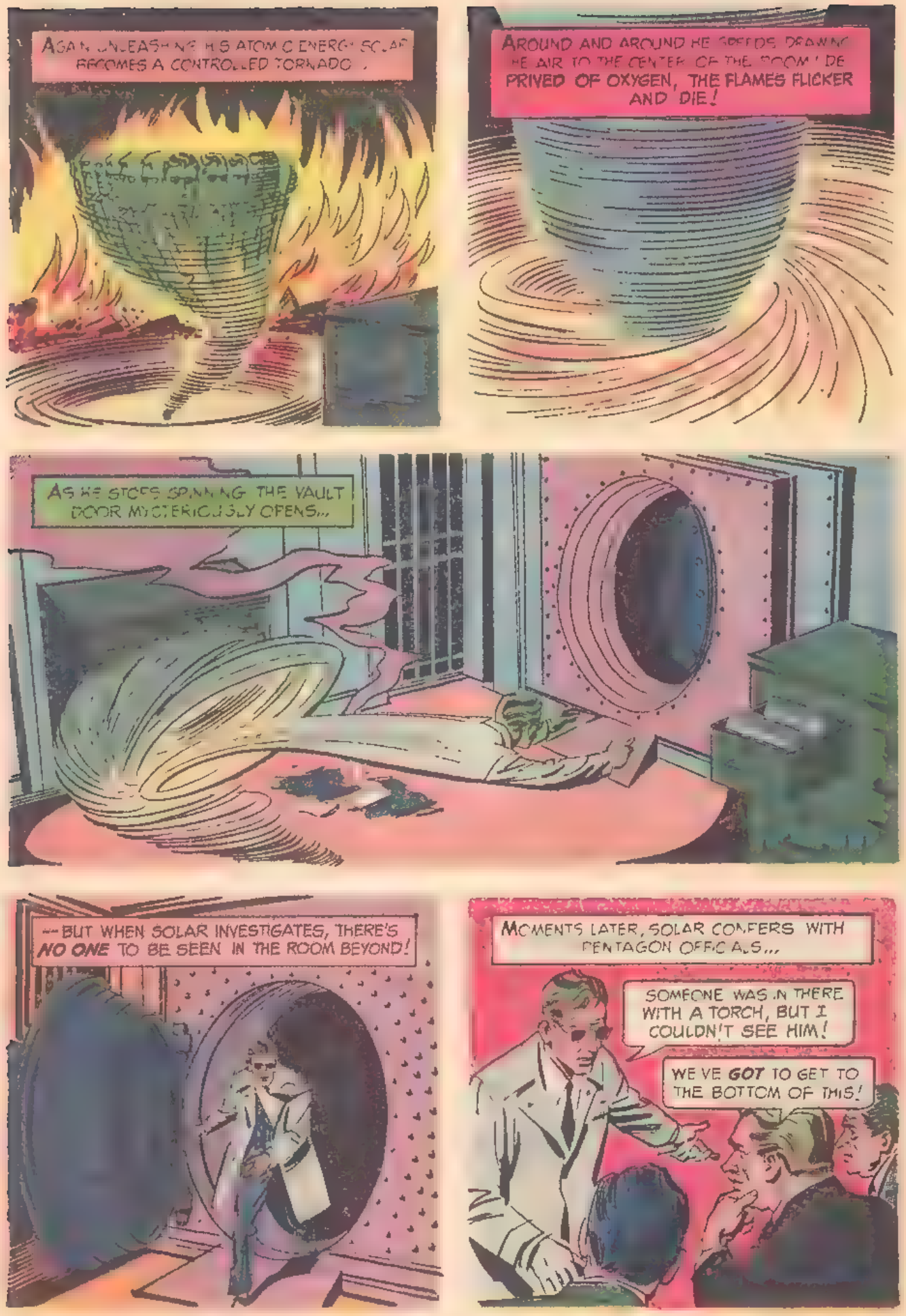

AS THE THICK STEEL DOOR SLAMS SHUT, SEALING OFF THE VAULT, SOLAR USES HIS FANTASTIC POWER TO CONVERT HIS ENERGY INTO AN ELECTRIC CURRENT-
CLACK!

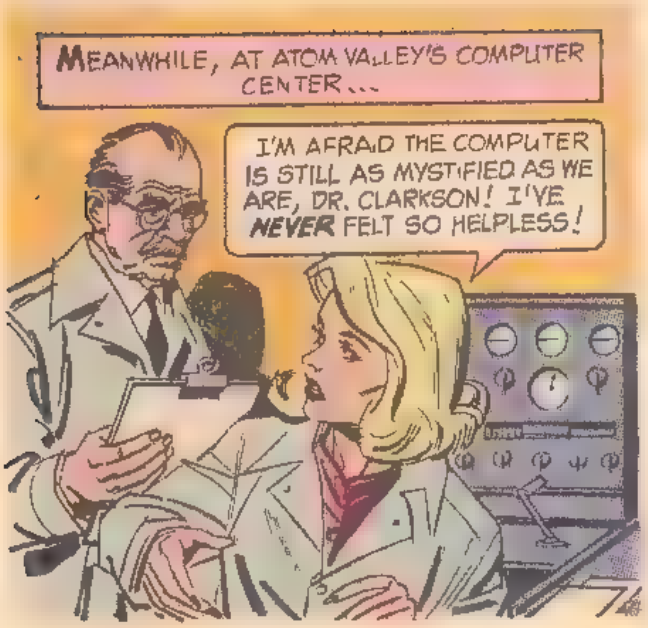

--WHICH ENABLES HIM TO ENTER THE VAULT THROUGH THE WIRING OF THE VAST ELECTRICAL SYSTEM!

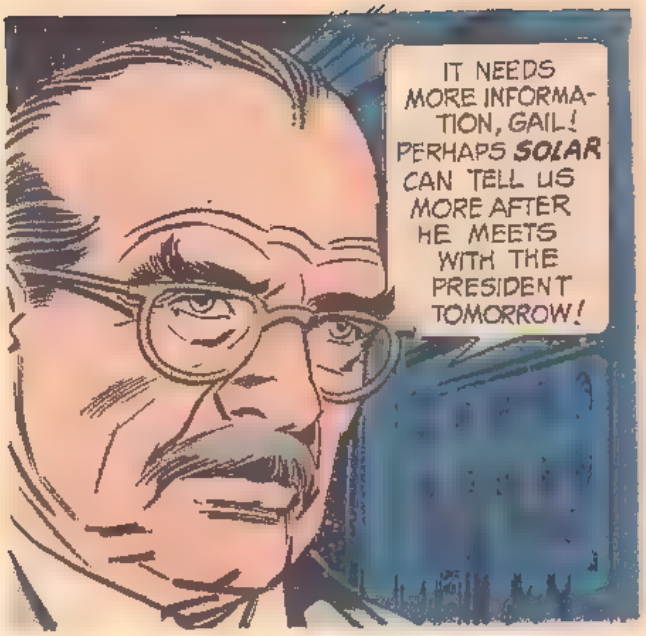

A MOMENT LATER, ACROSS THE DARKENED ROOM--
THERE'S NO ONE HERE BUT-- THAT TORCH-- WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?


SUDDENLY, BEFORE SOLAR'S EYES, THE SECRET FILES OPEN AND VITAL PAPERS SEEM TO LEAP TOWARD THE DESTRUCTIVE FLAME!

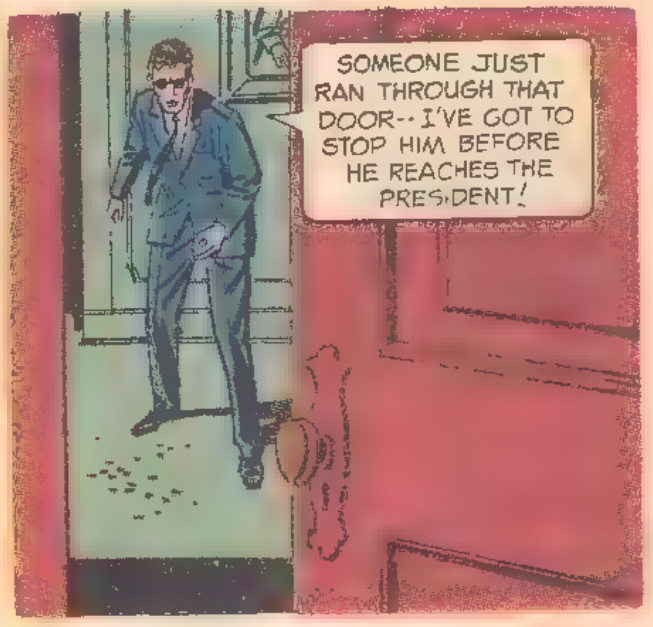

IN A SHORT TIME, THE ENTIRE ROOM IS A BLAZING INFERNO!


AGAIN UNLEASHING HIS ATOMIC ENERGY, SOLAR BECOMES A CONTROLLED TORNADO!
AROUND AND AROUND HE SPEEDS, DRAWING THE AIR TO THE CENTER OF THE ROOM! DEPRIVED OF OXYGEN, THE FLAMES FLICKER AND DIE!
AS HE STOPS SPINNING, THE VAULT DOOR MYSTERIOUSLY OPENS...
--BUT WHEN SOLAR INVESTIGATES, THERE'S NO ONE TO BE SEEN IN THE ROOM BEYOND!
MOMENTS LATER, SOLAR CONFERS WITH PENTAGON OFFICIALS...
SOMEONE WAS IN THERE WITH A TORCH, BUT I COULDN'T SEE HIM!
WE'VE GOT TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS!


MEANWHILE, AT ATOM VALLEY'S COMPUTER CENTER...
I'M AFRAID THE COMPUTER IS STILL AS MYSTIFIED AS WE ARE, DR. CLARKSON! I'VE NEVER FELT SO HELPLESS!

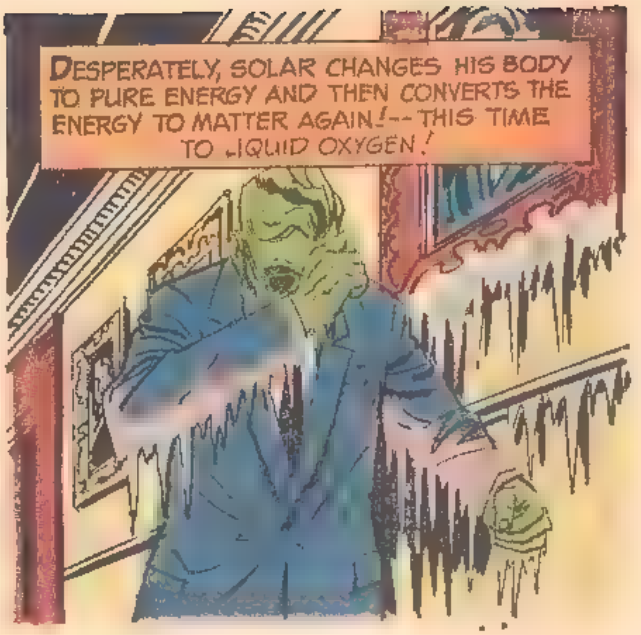

IT NEEDS MORE INFORMATION, GAIL! PERHAPS SOLAR CAN TELL US MORE AFTER HE MEETS WITH THE PRESIDENT TOMORROW!

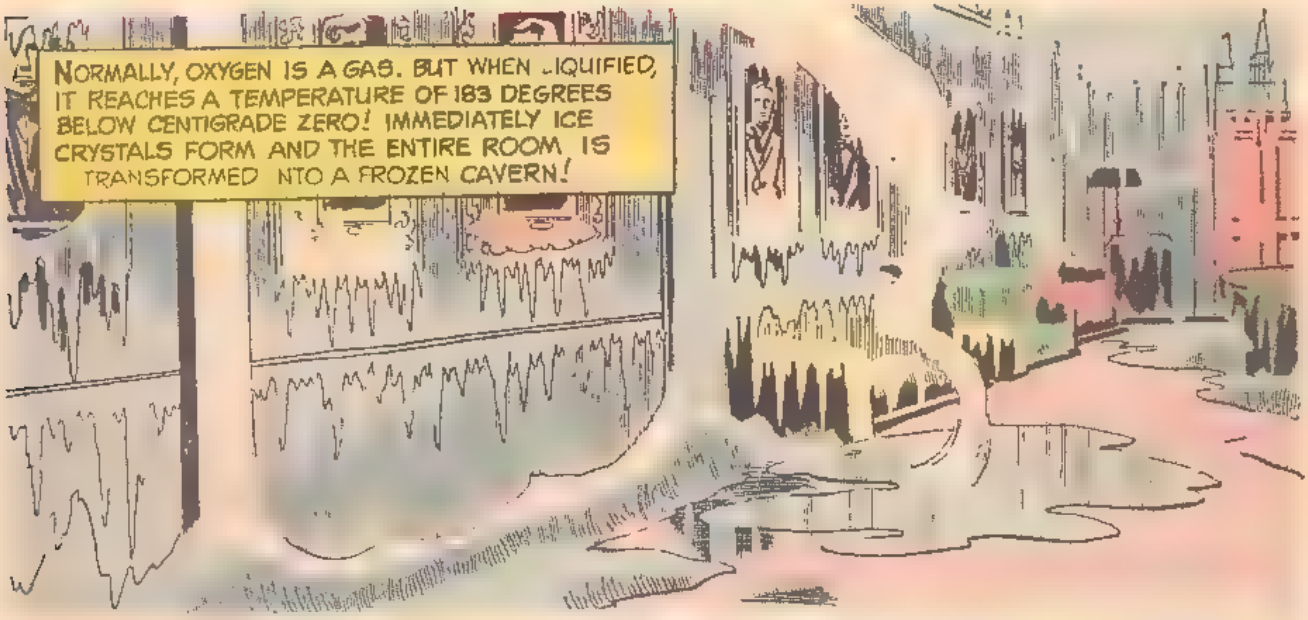
THE NEXT MORNING, AS SOLAR ARRIVES TO KEEP HIS WHITE HOUSE APPOINTMENT...
A GUARD UNCONSCIOUS! I'D BETTER GET INSIDE FAST!


SOMEONE JUST RAN THROUGH THAT DOOR-- I'VE GOT TO STOP HIM BEFORE HE REACHES THE PRESIDENT!

BUT AS SOLAR RUSHES THROUGH THE DOOR, HE FINDS THE RECEPTION ROOM EMPTY!

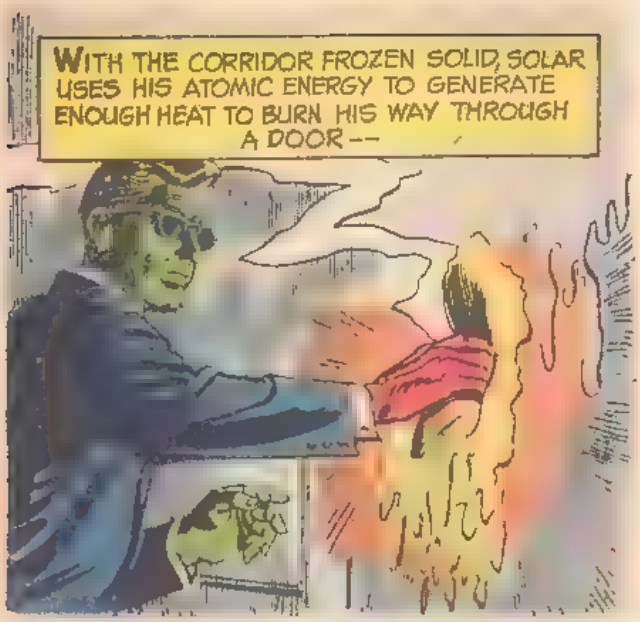
WHOEVER CAME THROUGH THAT DOOR MUST *STILL* BE IN THIS ROOM!--I'VE GOT TO KEEP HIM HERE!

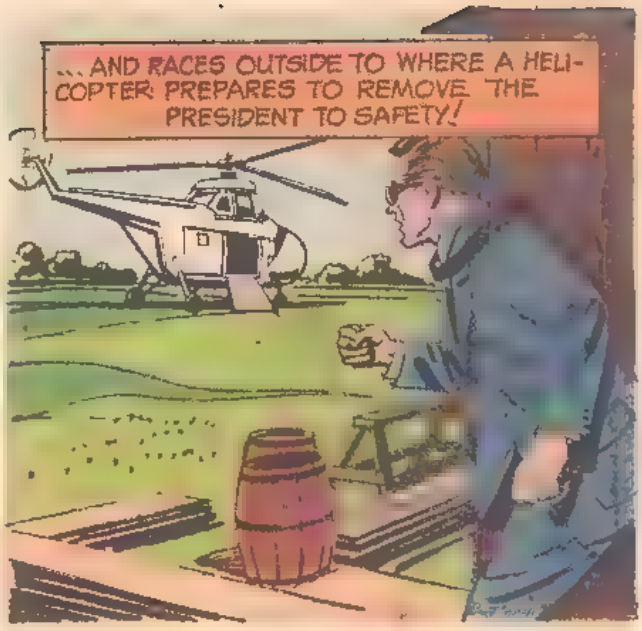

DESPERATELY, SOLAR CHANGES HIS BODY TO PURE ENERGY AND THEN CONVERTS THE ENERGY TO MATTER AGAIN!--THIS TIME TO LIQUID OXYGEN!


NORMALLY, OXYGEN IS A GAS. BUT WHEN LIQUIFIED, IT REACHES A TEMPERATURE OF 183 DEGREES BELOW CENTIGRADE ZERO! IMMEDIATELY ICE CRYSTALS FORM AND THE ENTIRE ROOM IS TRANSFORMED INTO A FROZEN CAVERN!

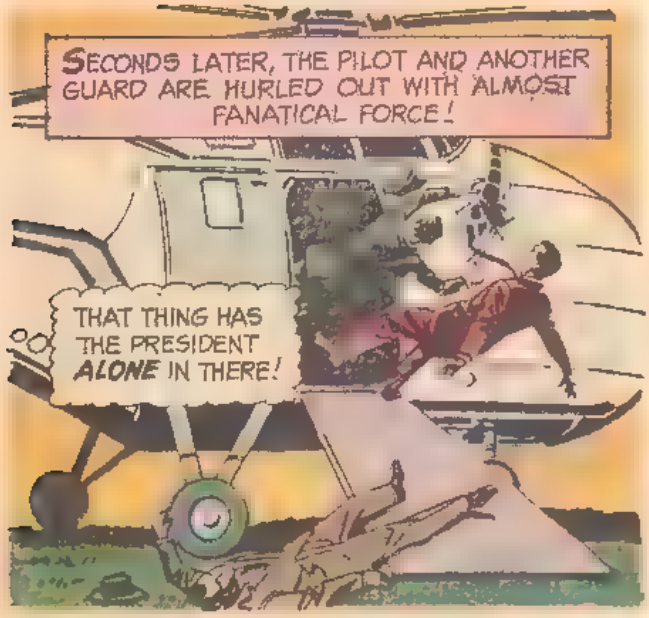
ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE FROZEN DOOR, A SECRET SERVICE MAN INVESTIGATES--
SOMETHING *STRANGE* IS GOING ON OUT THERE! I CAN'T GET THIS DOOR OPEN!

YOU MAY BE IN DANGER, MR. PRESIDENT! PLEASE COME WITH US!

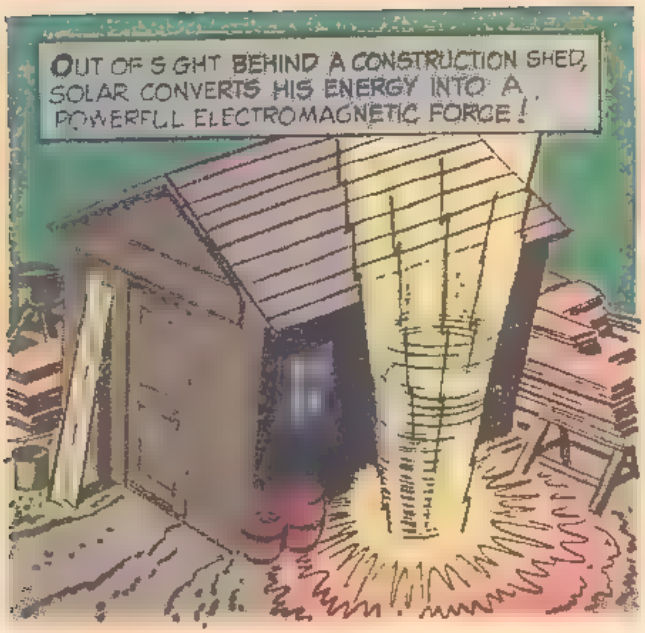

WITH THE CORRIDOR FROZEN SOLID, SOLAR USES HIS ATOMIC ENERGY TO GENERATE ENOUGH HEAT TO BURN HIS WAY THROUGH A DOOR --

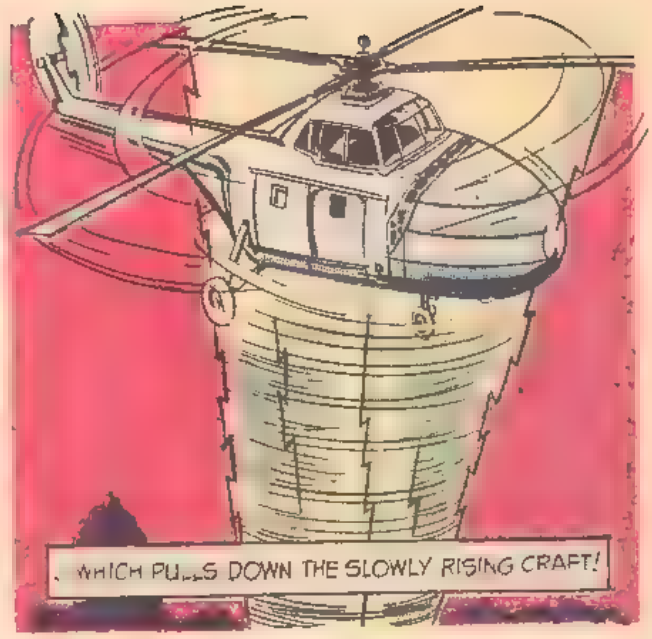

... AND RACES OUTSIDE TO WHERE A HELICOPTER PREPARES TO REMOVE THE PRESIDENT TO SAFETY!

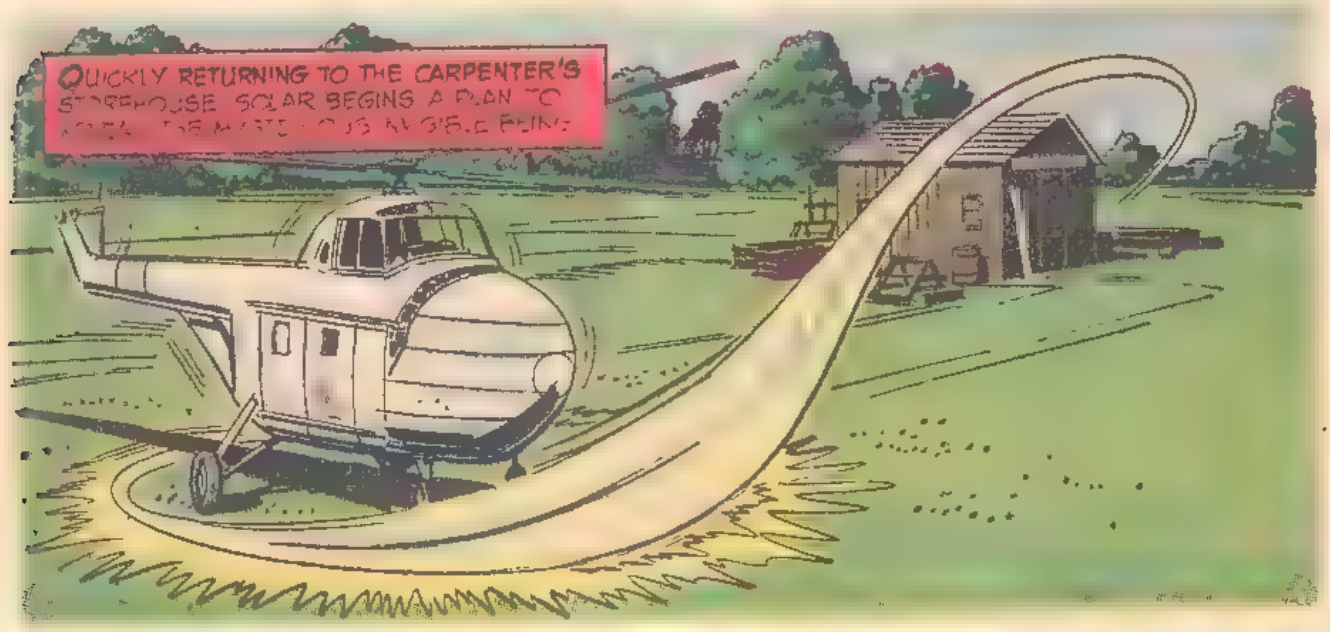
BUT SOLAR'S ICY TRAP WAS IN VAIN! THE INVISIBLE MAN IS ALREADY OUTSIDE! AS SOLAR WATCHES, THE PRESIDENT'S GUARD IS THROWN ASIDE!

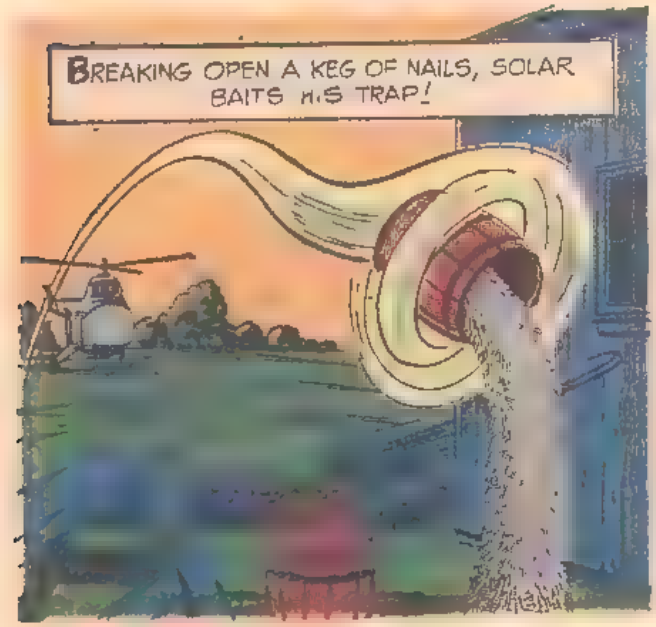

SECONDS LATER, THE PILOT AND ANOTHER GUARD ARE HURLED OUT WITH ALMOST FANATICAL FORCE!
THAT THING HAS THE PRESIDENT *ALONE* IN THERE!

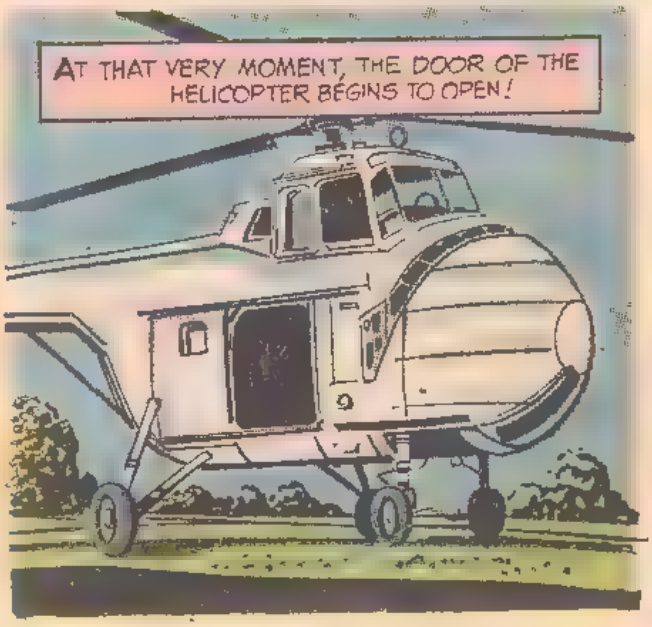
THEN, THE HELICOPTER SLOWLY BEGINS TO RISE FROM THE LAWN!

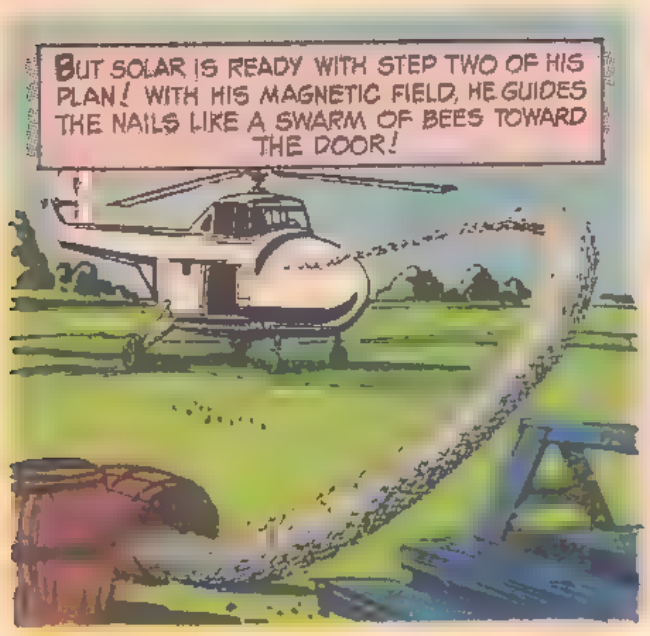

OUT OF SIGHT BEHIND A CONSTRUCTION SHED, SOLAR CONVERTS HIS ENERGY INTO A POWERFUL ELECTROMAGNETIC FORCE!

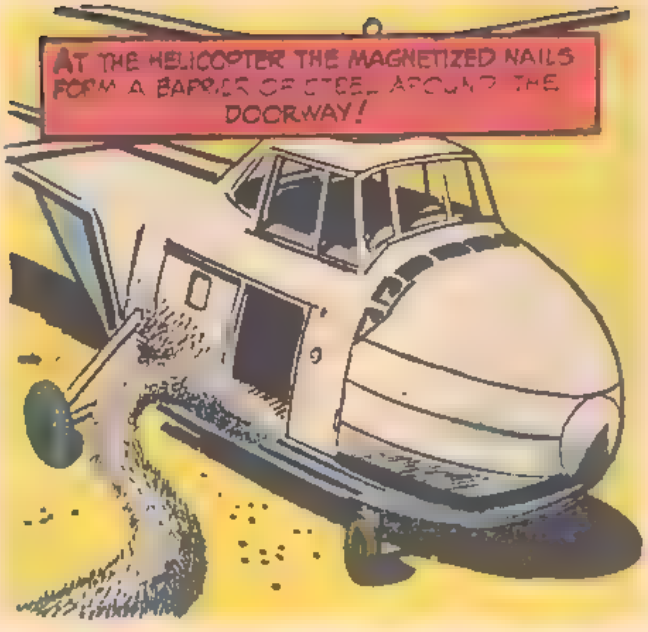

WHICH PULLS DOWN THE SLOWLY RISING CRAFT!


QUICKLY RETURNING TO THE CARPENTER'S STOREHOUSE SOLAR BEGINS A PLAN TO


BREAKING OPEN A KEG OF NAILS, SOLAR BAITS HIS TRAP!

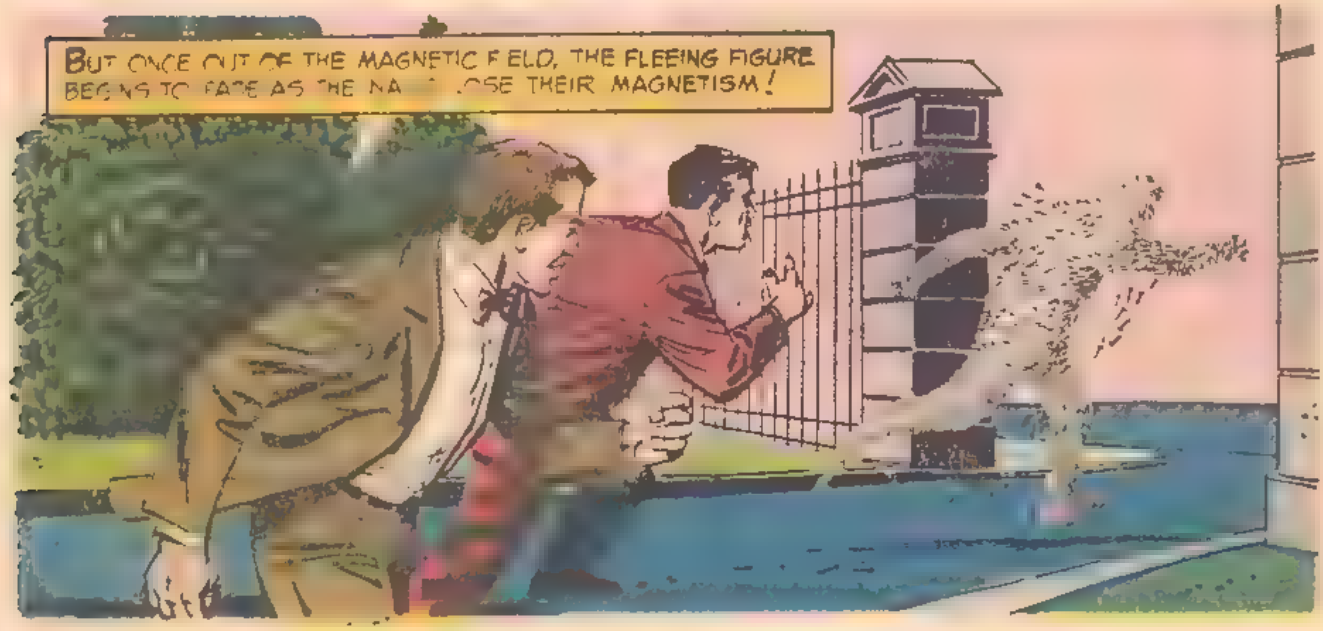

AT THAT VERY MOMENT, THE DOOR OF THE HELICOPTER BEGINS TO OPEN!


BUT SOLAR IS READY WITH STEP TWO OF HIS PLAN! WITH HIS MAGNETIC FIELD, HE GUIDES THE NAILS LIKE A SWARM OF BEES TOWARD THE DOOR!


AT THE HELICOPTER THE MAGNETIZED NAILS FORM A BARRIER OF STEEL AROUND THE DOORWAY!

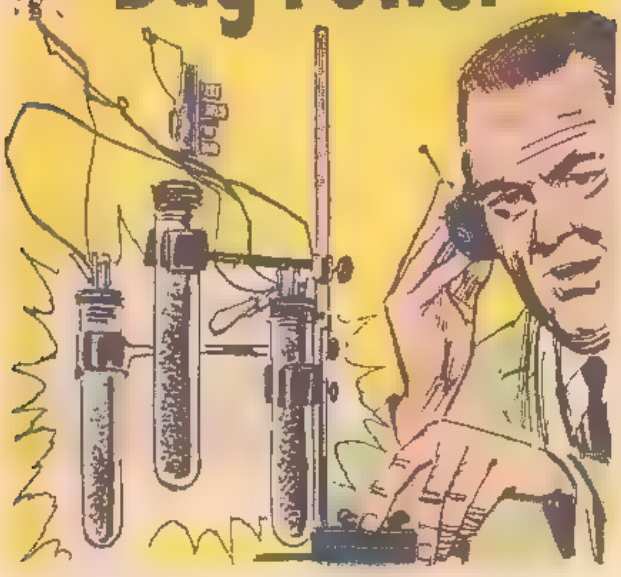
SUDDENLY A STARTLING FORM IS OUTLINED AS THE INVISIBLE MAN IS CAUGHT IN THE MAGNETIC FIELD! OR GALTER HAS FALLEN INTO SOLAR'S TRAP!

ABLE TO SEE HIM NOW, THE SECRET SERVICE GUARDS GIVE CHASE!


BUT ONCE OUT OF THE MAGNETIC FIELD, THE FLEEING FIGURE BEGINS TO FADE AS THE NAILS LOSE THEIR MAGNETISM!

AS THEY REACH THE STREET, THE FORM HAS VANISHED COMPLETELY!
SCREECH!
THUMP!
SUDDENLY, A TRUCK HITS SOMETHING!
WHAT DID I HIT? --I DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING!
LATER, IN HIS ATOM VALLEY LAB, SOLAR UNFOLDS THE INCREDIBLE TALE FOR DR. CLARKSON...
--THE INVISIBLE MAN IS DEAD! I MANAGED TO GET HIS SUIT, BUT I'M AFRAID HIS SECRET DIED WITH HIM!
CHANCES ARE NO ONE COULD BUILD ANOTHER INVISIBLE SUIT! THIS MAN WAS A GENIUS! I CAN'T HELP FEELING SOMEONE ELSE WAS BEHIND THE EVIL HE DID!
I THINK SO, TOO! UNFORTUNATELY, THAT MASTERMIND IS STILL INVISIBLE!

Bug Power



For centuries man has been searching for new sources of power to do the world's work. Steam, water power, coal, atomic energy and solar radiation have all been harnessed by man.

Now comes a great new source of energy—*bacteria*.

Within the past few months, the world of science was startled to learn that microscopic bacteria have been used to make electricity! Three test tubes of the minute animals, when fed with a single gram of sugar, will generate two volts of electricity for more than a month.

This is enough to run a miniature radio transmitter.

The electric power is created by the chemical reactions resulting from the life-processes of the infinitesimal creatures. The type of bacteria used is still a closely guarded secret. But Dr. Frederic Sisler and Dr. Robert Sarbacher, the developers of the process, report that this germ is relatively harmless and is found almost everywhere.

The bacteria feeds on waste products, but leaves no waste. It can digest and destroy a wide variety of waste products such as dried grass, dead insects, corn cobs, polluted water and even garbage. In fact it will devour anything that is in the process of decay.

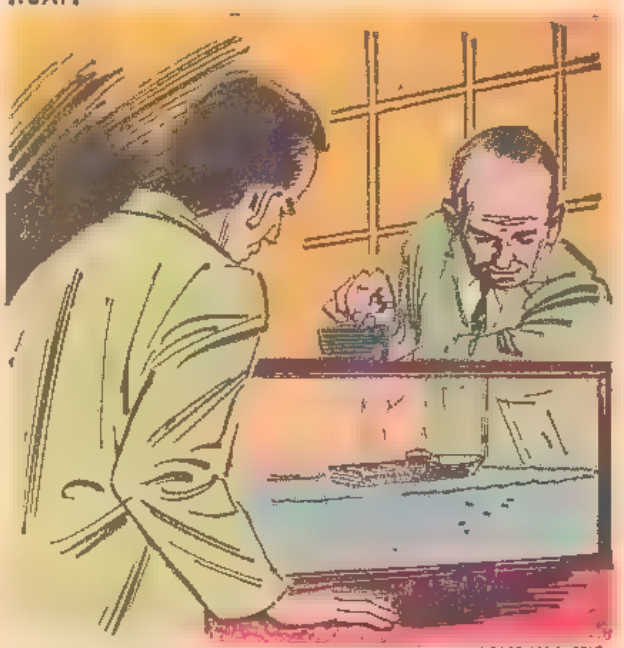
The inventors assert that the germs are also found in the sea, and readily feed on waste products found in salt water. Thus, the world's oceans can theoretically supply a mighty source of electricity.

Toying with this idea, the inventors designed a model boat that operates by "bacteria power" when floated in an experimental tank of sea water. Based on the result of their tests they are convinced that in the future ships will sail the seven seas using this "bug-power." They see the ocean potentially as a huge battery.

The possibilities of bacteria power are enormous. Since the germs feed on waste without leaving waste, our cities may use their sewage plants and garbage dumps to generate power and to get rid of garbage at the same time. Mills could use the bacteria to destroy river-polluting waste products, and in the process generate the electricity to run their power plants.

Scientists feel that this new power source has unlimited potential. A check of the world's large bodies of water reveals that the Black Sea contains the richest food source for these energy-creating germs. Researchers say that using huge electrodes they could turn the Black Sea into an immense electrical battery which would generate enough electricity to provide light and power for large areas of the Near East.

Yes, these are indeed days of amazing scientific advances. What new wonders will our research laboratories bring forth next?



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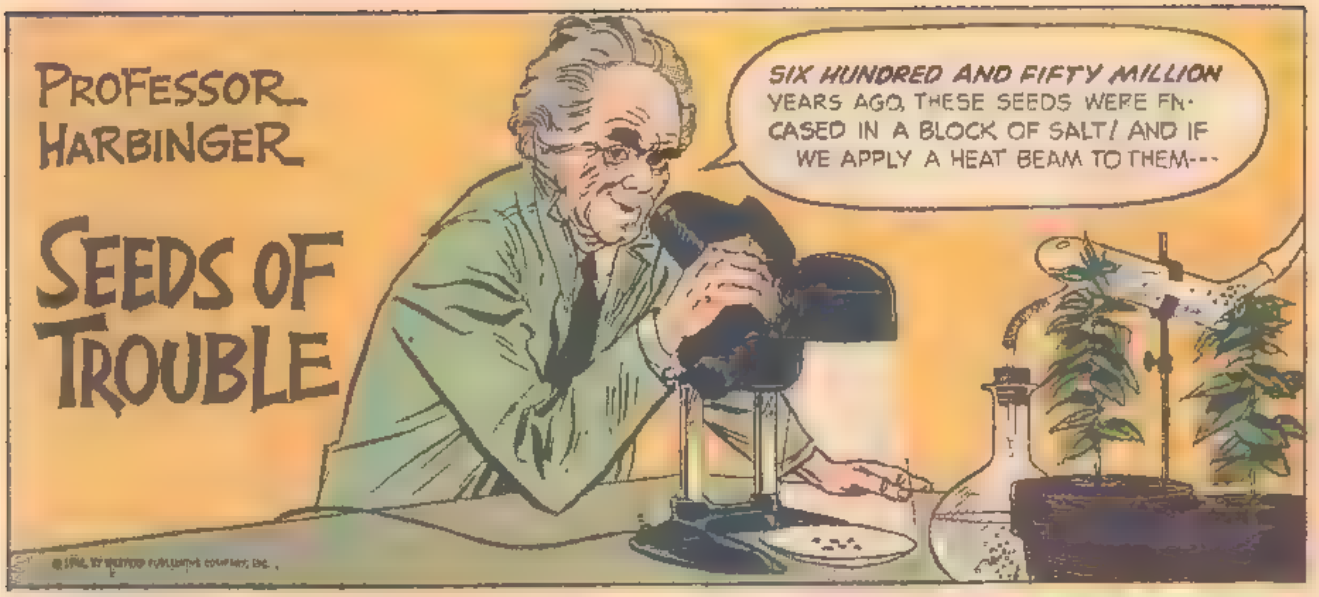
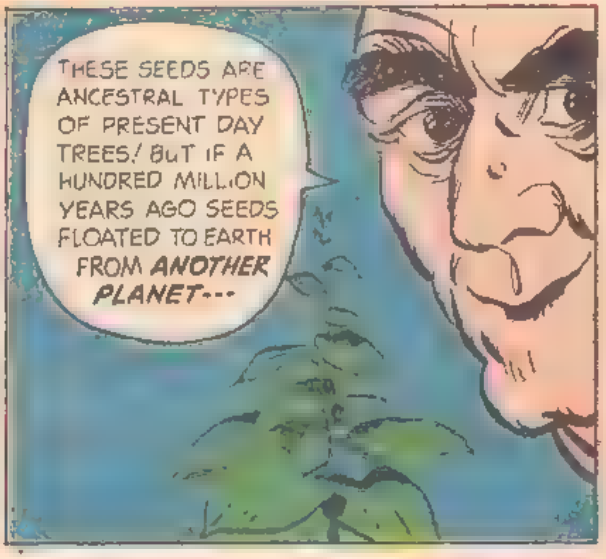
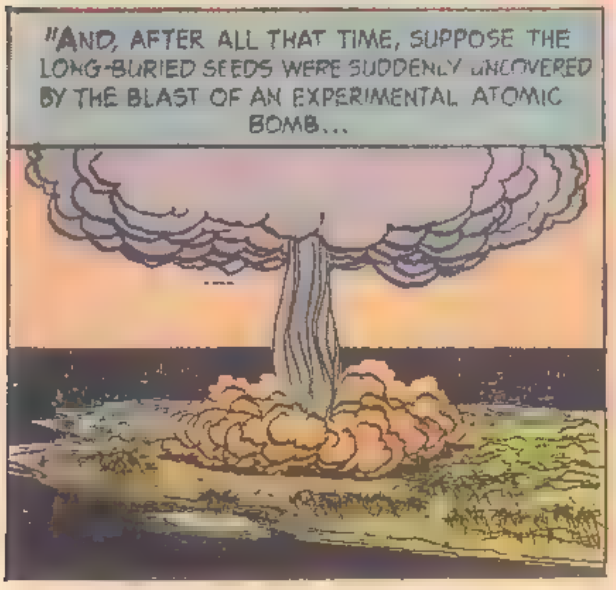
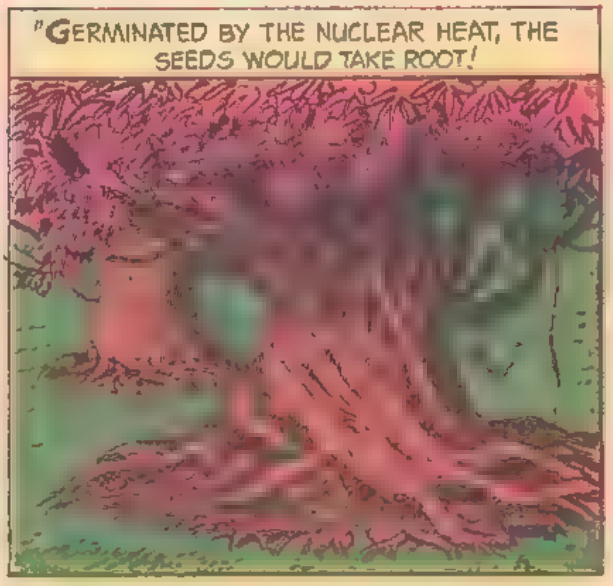
PROFESSOR HARBINGER

SEEDS OF TROUBLE

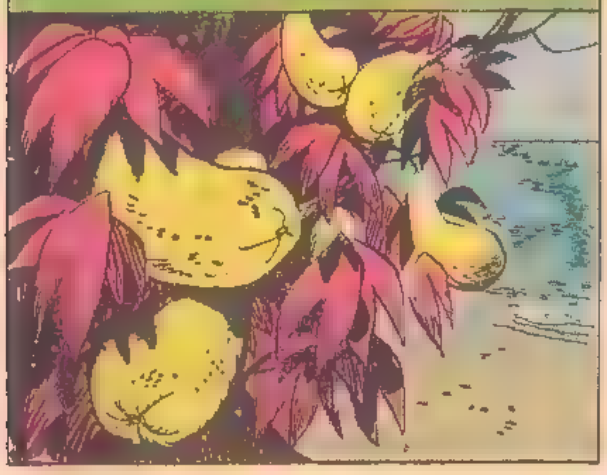


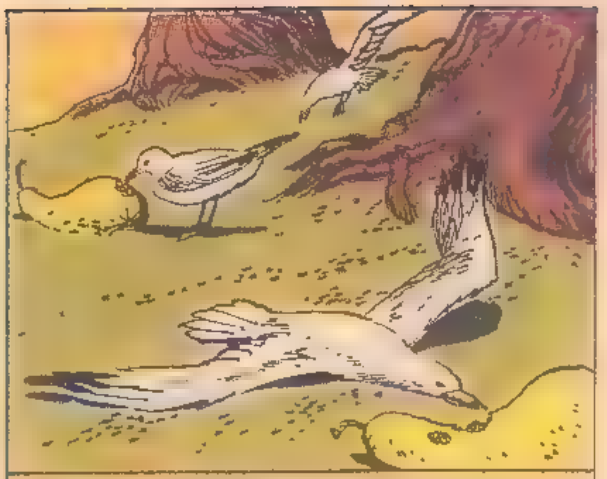

THESE SEEDS ARE ANCESTRAL TYPES OF PRESENT DAY TREES! BUT IF A HUNDRED MILLION YEARS AGO SEEDS FLOATED TO EARTH FROM ANOTHER PLANET---


"AND, AFTER ALL THAT TIME, SUPPOSE THE LONG-BURIED SEEDS WERE SUDDENLY UNCOVERED BY THE BLAST OF AN EXPERIMENTAL ATOMIC BOMB...



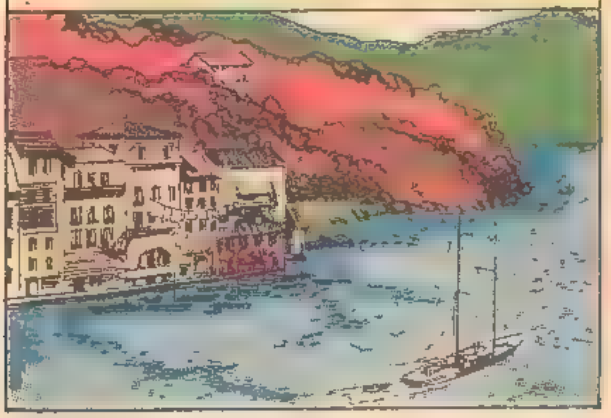
"AS THE STRANGE TREES GROW, EVEN STRANGER-LOOKING FRUITS APPEAR ON THEM ..





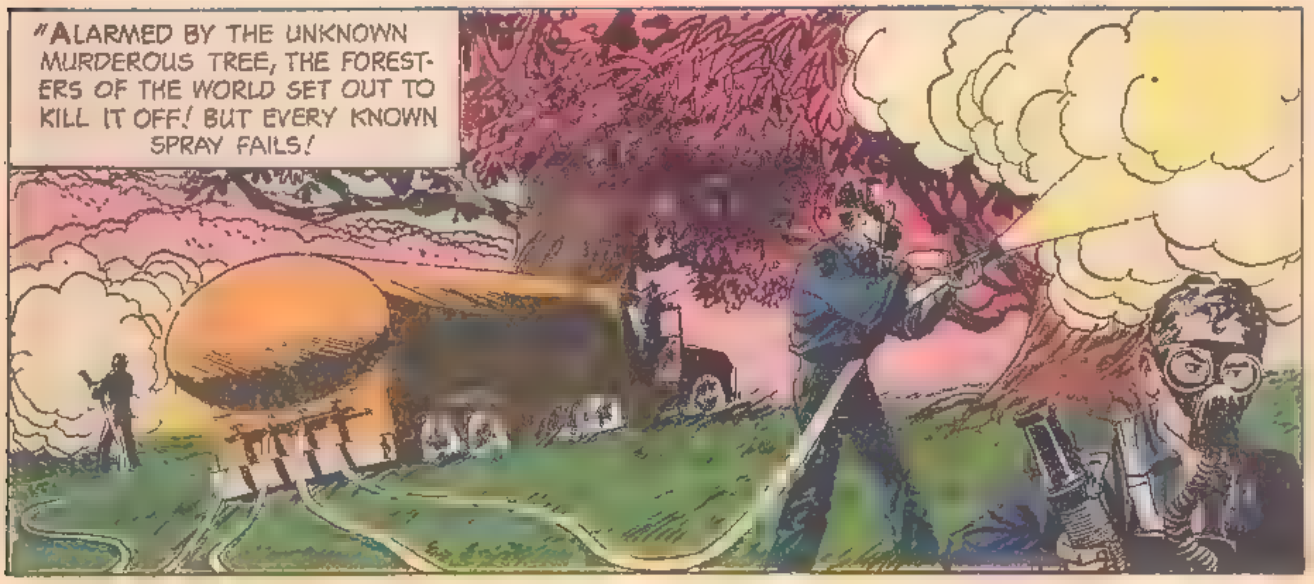
"PASSING BIRDS ARE TEMPTED BY THE COLOR AND ODOR OF THE FRUIT! BUT ONE TASTE PROVES ***FATAL!***

"THE WINDS SPREAD THE SEEDS! NOW THE UNEARTHLY TREES ARE NO LONGER BOUND TO JUST THE ISLAND! ALL AROUND THE WORLD, STANDS OF CRIMSON-LEAFED TREES APPEAR...



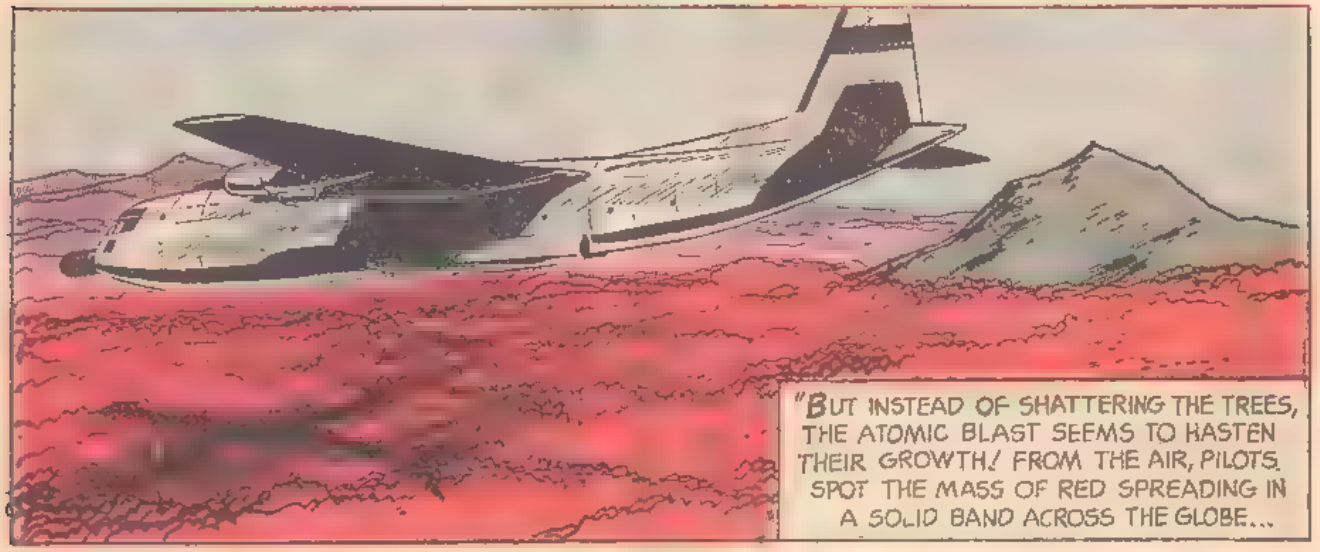
"AND AS THEY SPREAD, THE ALIEN TREES PUT OUT CREEPERS THAT TWIST ABOUT OTHER TREES, CHOKING AND KILLING THEM OFF!

"ALARMED BY THE UNKNOWN MURDEROUS TREE, THE FORESTERS OF THE WORLD SET OUT TO KILL IT OFF! BUT EVERY KNOWN SPRAY FAILS!



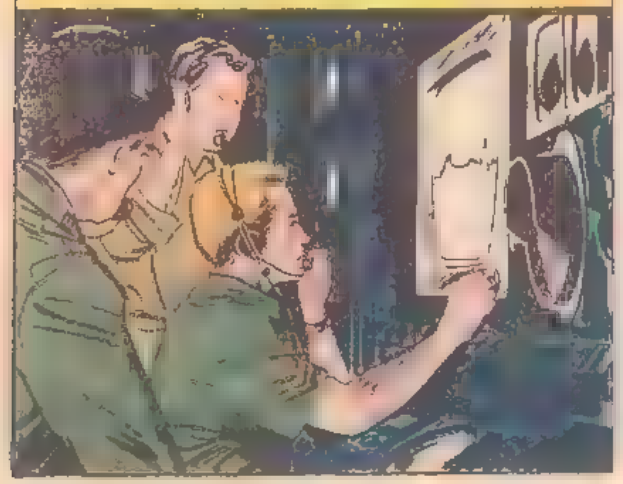
"AXES, POWER SAWS, EVEN DIAMOND DRILLS FAIL TO PENETRATE THE TOUGH BARK OF THE TREES THAT RISE DEFIANTLY AGAINST ALL ATTEMPTS TO KILL THEM

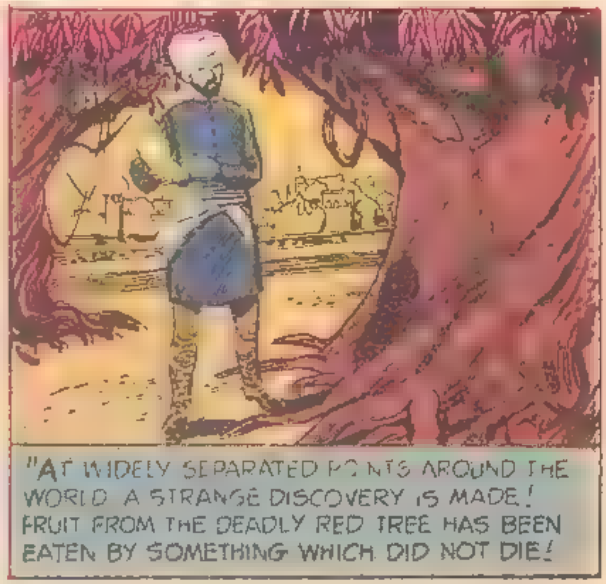
"IN EUROPE AN ATOMIC-BLAST-WEARING APE TURNED AGAINST THE FAST-SPREADING LINE...



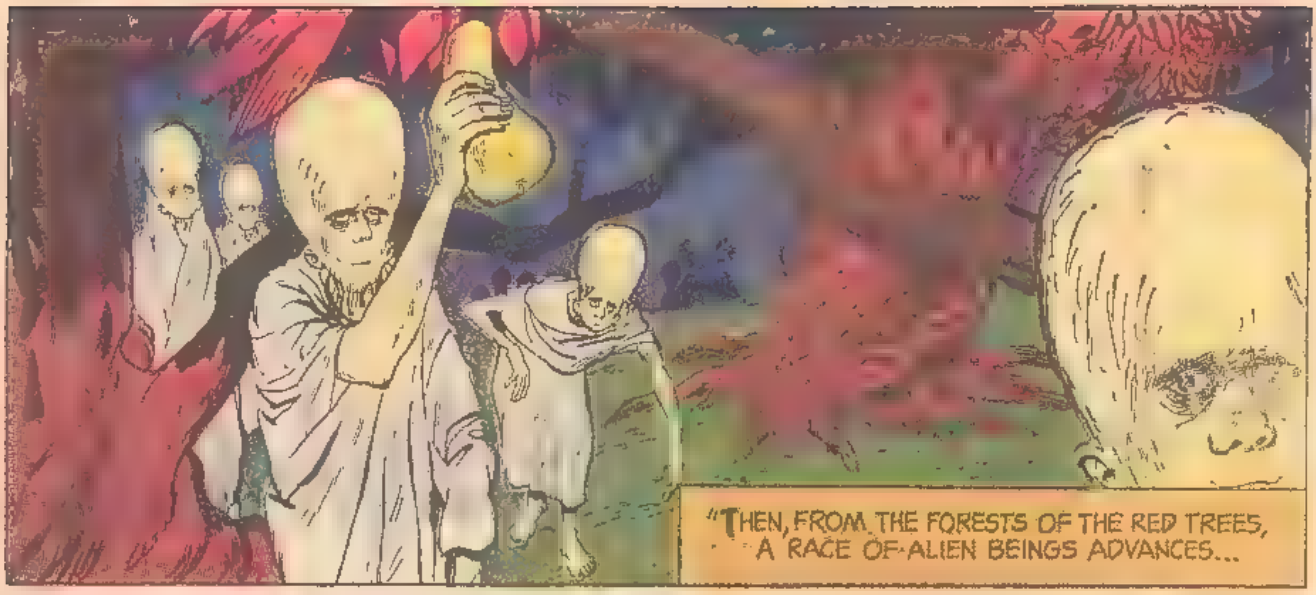
"BUT INSTEAD OF SHATTERING THE TREES, THE ATOMIC BLAST SEEMS TO HASTEN THEIR GROWTH! FROM THE AIR, PILOTS SPOT THE MASS OF RED SPREADING IN A SOLID BAND ACROSS THE GLOBE...

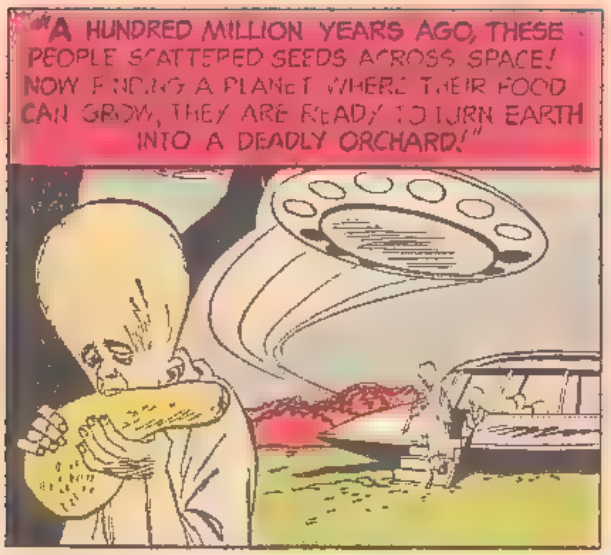
"SUDDENLY, RADAR REPORTS COME IN! STRANGE, SUPERSONIC BLIPS RACE ACROSS THE SCREEN, AND VANISH...

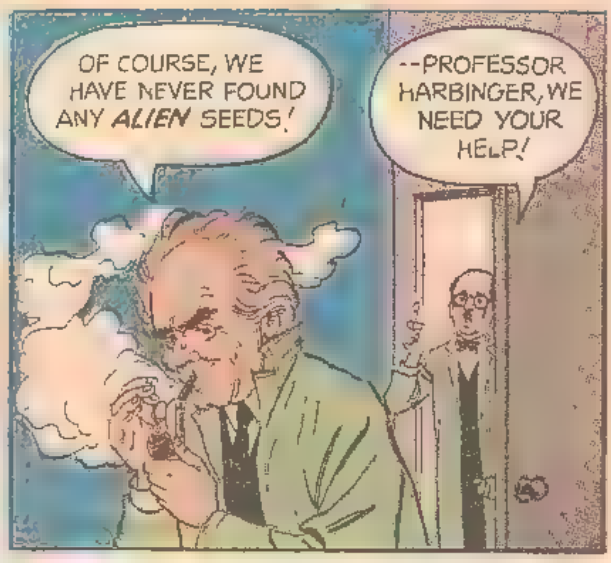


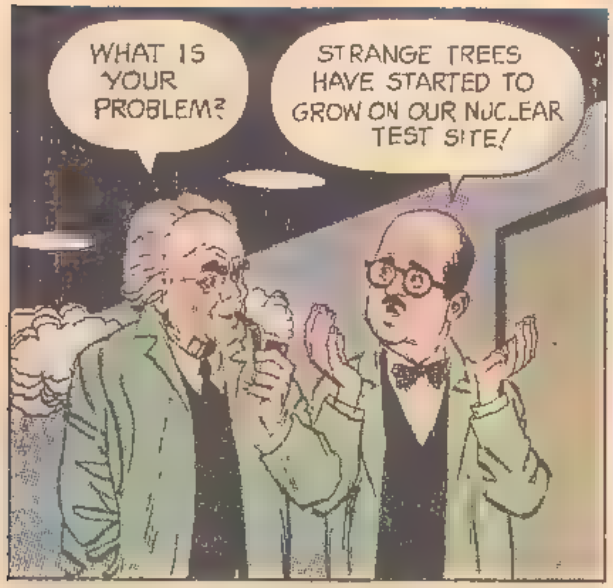


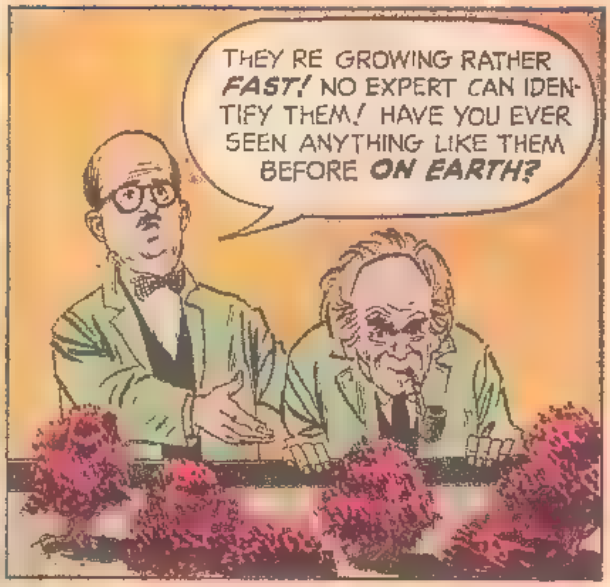
"AT WIDELY SEPARATED POINTS AROUND THE WORLD A STRANGE DISCOVERY IS MADE! FRUIT FROM THE DEADLY RED TREE HAS BEEN EATEN BY SOMETHING WHICH DID NOT DIE!


"THEN, FROM THE FORESTS OF THE RED TREES, A RACE OF ALIEN BEINGS ADVANCES...


"A HUNDRED MILLION YEARS AGO, THESE PEOPLE SCATTERED SEEDS ACROSS SPACE! NOW FINDING A PLANET WHERE THEIR FOOD CAN GROW, THEY ARE READY TO TURN EARTH INTO A DEADLY ORCHARD!"


OF COURSE, WE HAVE NEVER FOUND ANY ALIEN SEEDS!
--PROFESSOR HARBINGER, WE NEED YOUR HELP!


WHAT IS YOUR PROBLEM?
STRANGE TREES HAVE STARTED TO GROW ON OUR NUCLEAR TEST SITE!


THEY RE GROWING RATHER FAST! NO EXPERT CAN IDENTIFY THEM! HAVE YOU EVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THEM BEFORE ON EARTH?

DOCTOR SOLAR

SOLAR'S DEADLY DOUBLE

AT THE EDGE OF SPACE, AN EXPER MENTAL SATELLITE BEAMS SIGNALS TO CREATE WEATHER CONDITIONS ON THE EARTH BENEATH.

FAR BELOW, IN RESPONSE TO THE SATELLITE'S SIGNAL, CLOUDS FORM, THUNDER RUMBLES AND LIGHTNING FLASHES.

BWROOM!

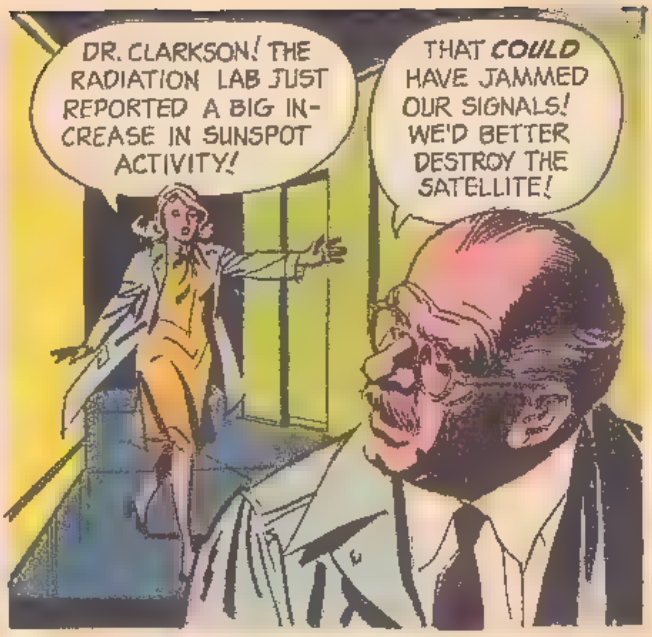
DR. CLARKSON! SOMETHING'S GONE *WRONG* WITH OUR WEATHER SATELLITE!

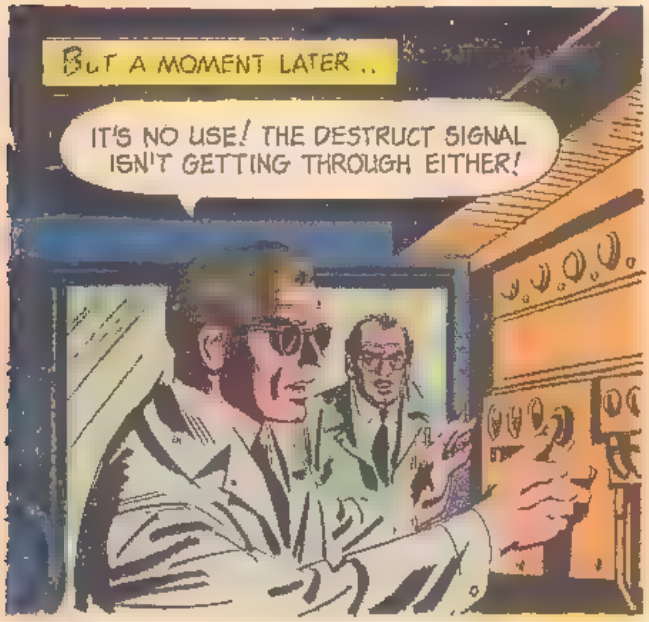
IT SHOULD BE MAKING *CLEAR* WEATHER--BUT WE'RE GETTING A *RAGING STORM!*

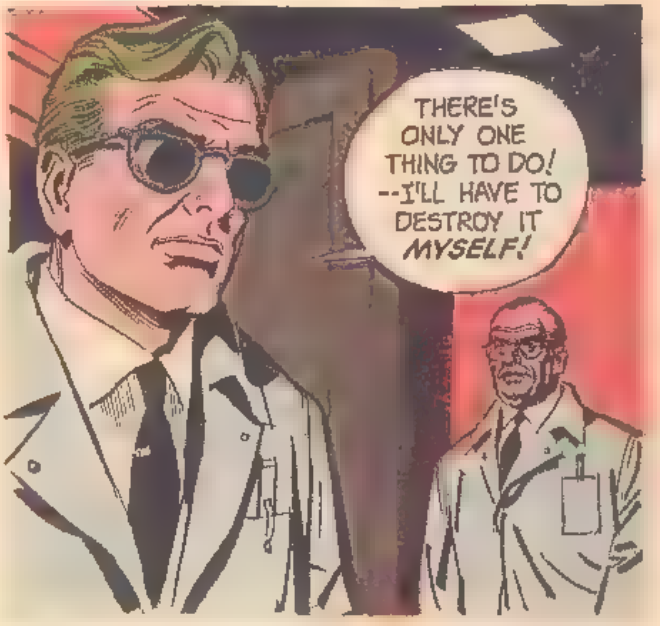
DR. SOLAR, WE'RE HAVING PROBLEMS WITH OUR SATELLITE! WILL YOU HELP ME CHECK OUT THE CONTROLS?

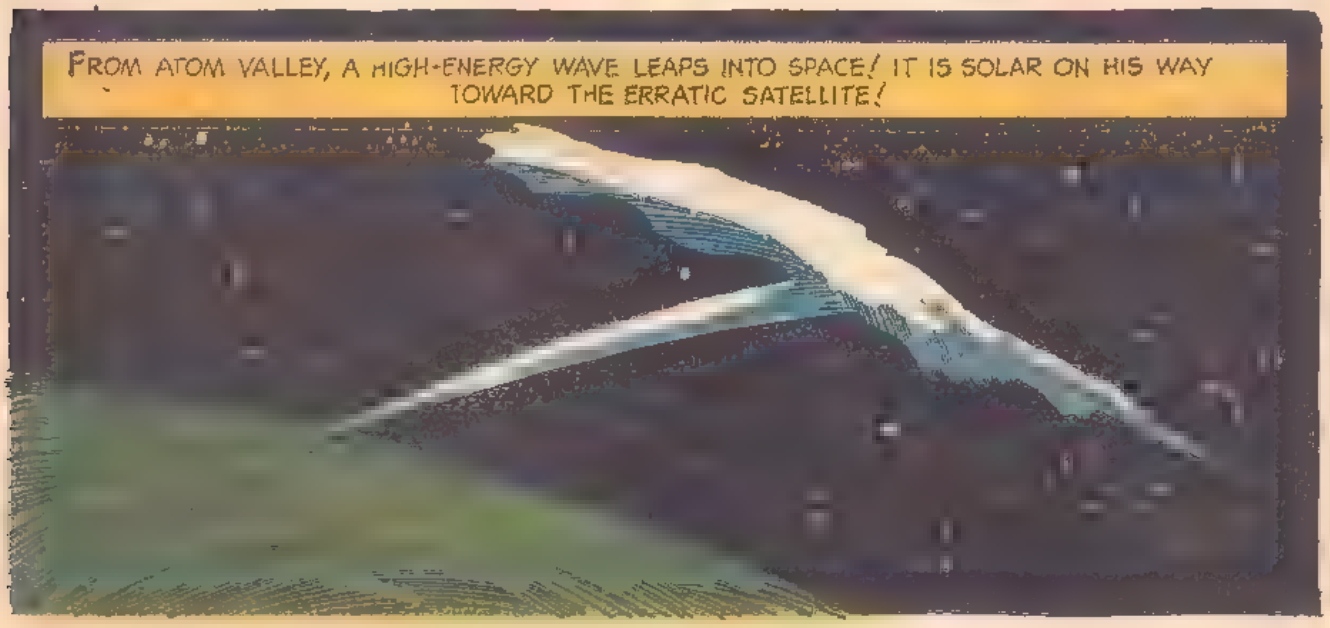
IF WE CAN'T STOP THAT STORM, THE WHOLE VALLEY WILL BE FLOODED!

STRANGE-- EVERY THING CHECKS OUT! BUT OUR CONTROLS HAVE *NO EFFECT!*
SOMETHING MUST BE *INTERFERING* WITH OUR SIGNALS!

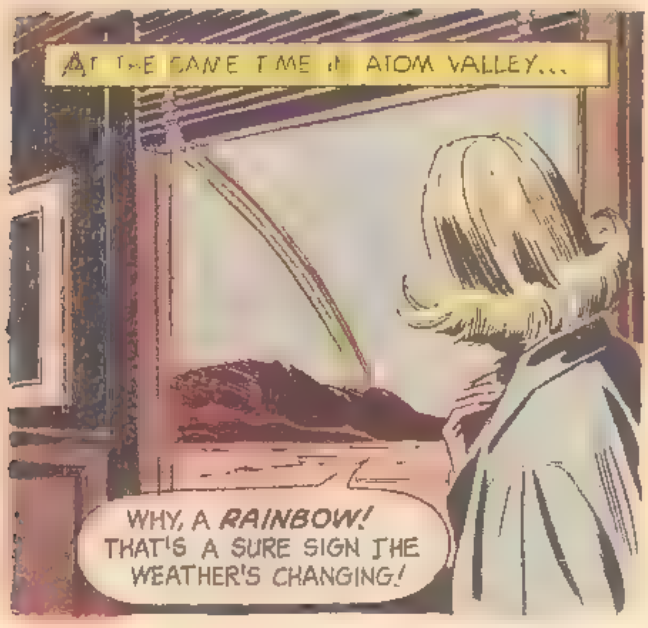

DR. CLARKSON! THE RADIATION LAB JUST REPORTED A BIG INCREASE IN SUNSPOT ACTIVITY!
THAT *COULD* HAVE JAMMED OUR SIGNALS! WE'D BETTER DESTROY THE SATELLITE!

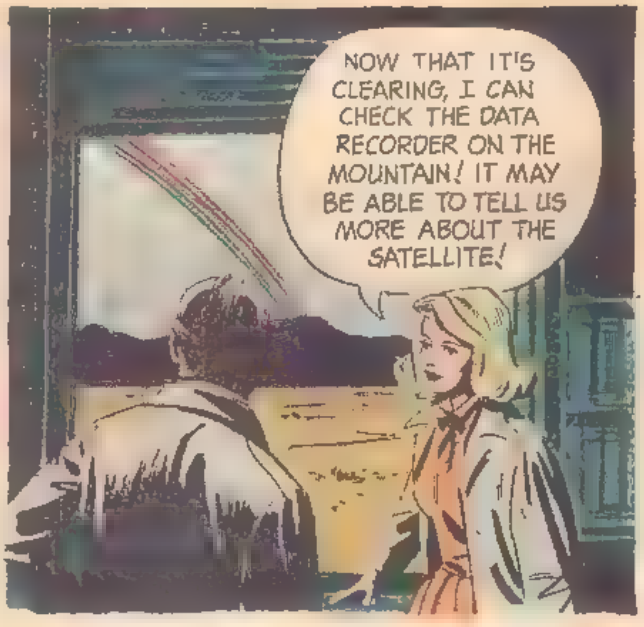

BUT A MOMENT LATER ..
IT'S NO USE! THE DESTRUCT SIGNAL ISN'T GETTING THROUGH EITHER!

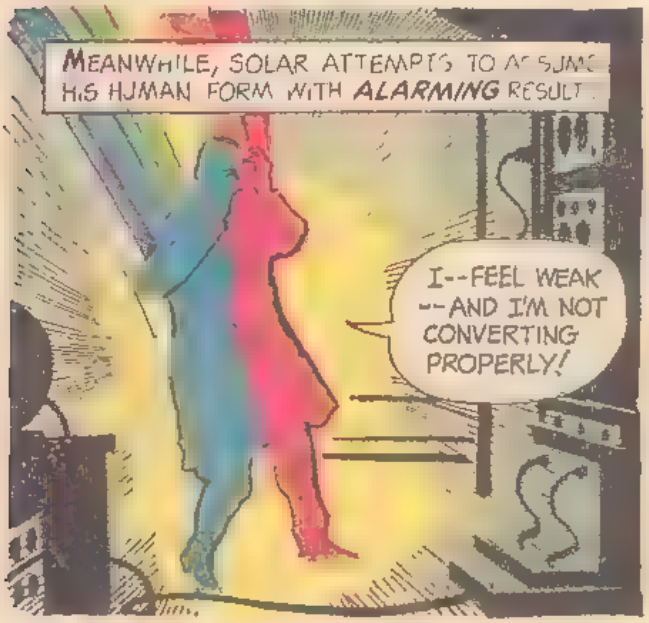

THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO! --I'LL HAVE TO DESTROY IT *MYSELF!*

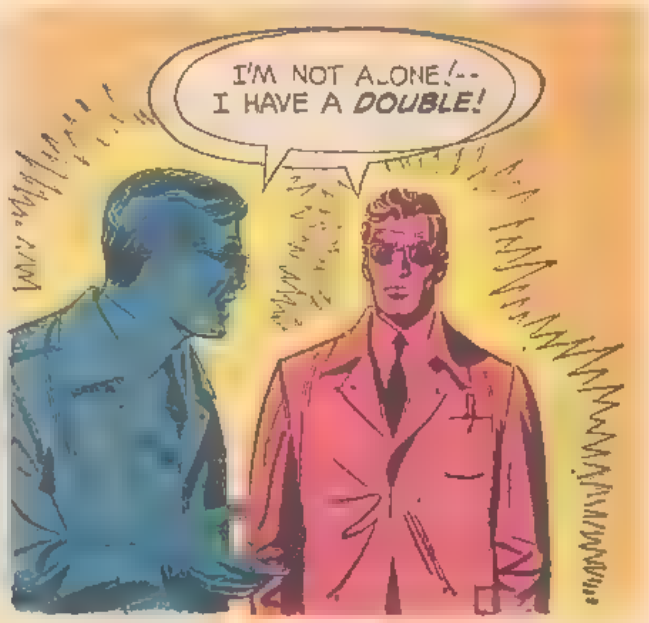

FROM ATOM VALLEY, A HIGH-ENERGY WAVE LEAPS INTO SPACE! IT IS SOLAR ON HIS WAY TOWARD THE ERRATIC SATELLITE!

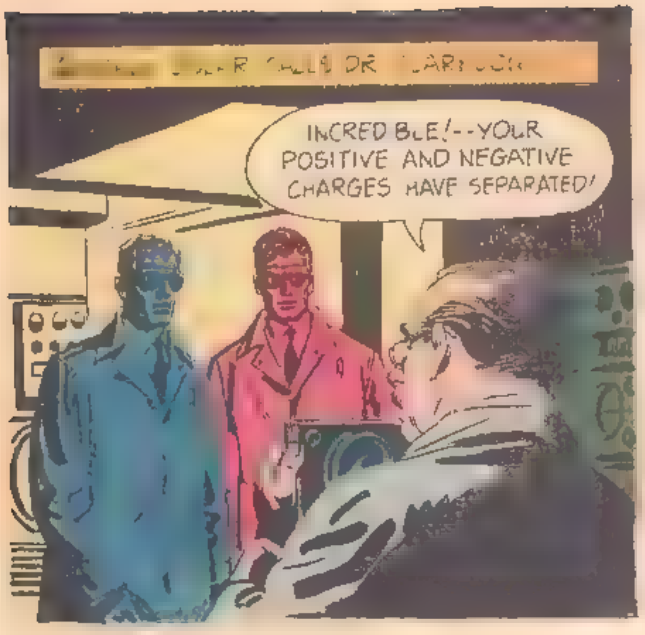
SUDDENLY, THE ENERGY WAVE IS SCATTERED INTO ELECTRICALLY-CHARGED PARTICLES OF AIR WHICH CREATES A COLORFUL AURORA!

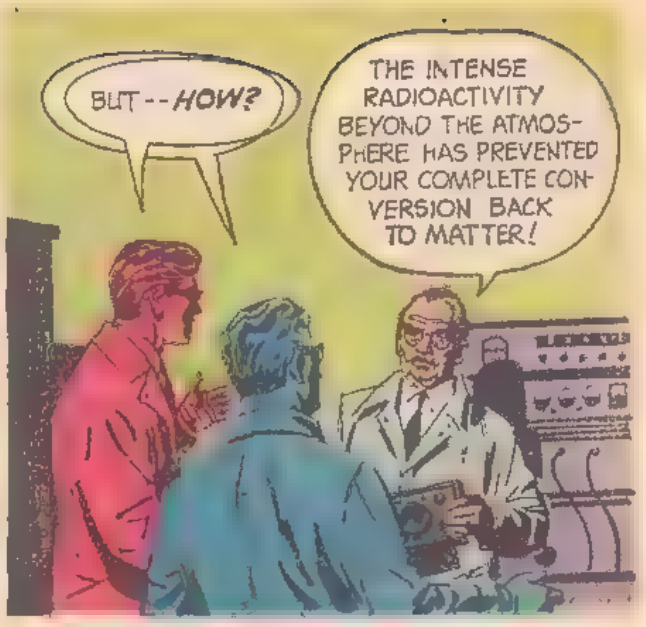

AT THE SAME TIME IN ATOM VALLEY...
WHY, A *RAINBOW!* THAT'S A SURE SIGN THE WEATHER'S CHANGING!

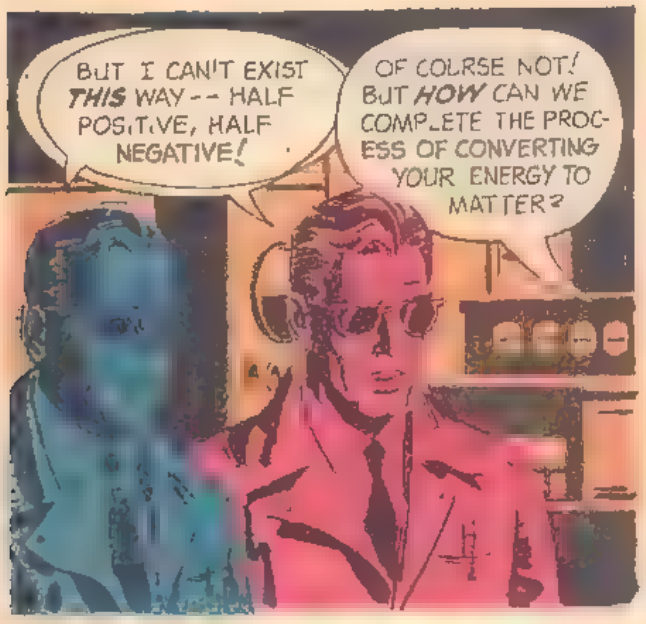

NOW THAT IT'S CLEARING, I CAN CHECK THE DATA RECORDER ON THE MOUNTAIN! IT MAY BE ABLE TO TELL US MORE ABOUT THE SATELLITE!

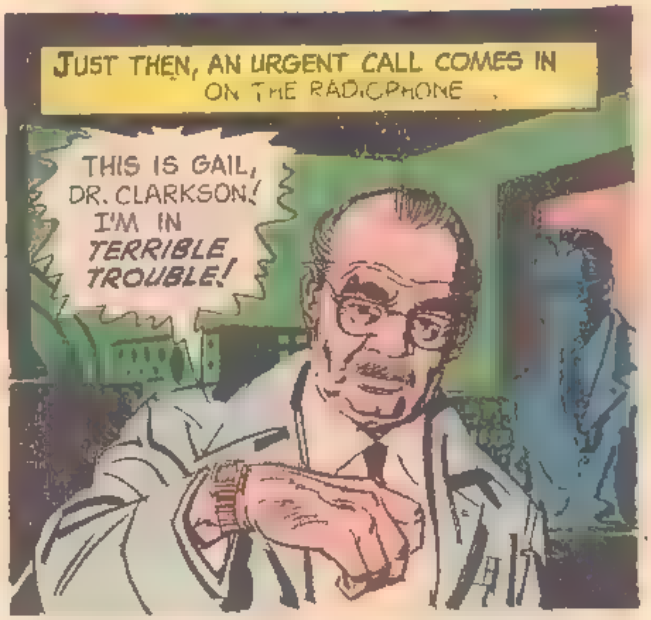

MEANWHILE, SOLAR ATTEMPTS TO ASSUME HIS HUMAN FORM WITH *ALARMING* RESULTS.
I--FEEL WEAK --AND I'M NOT CONVERTING PROPERLY!

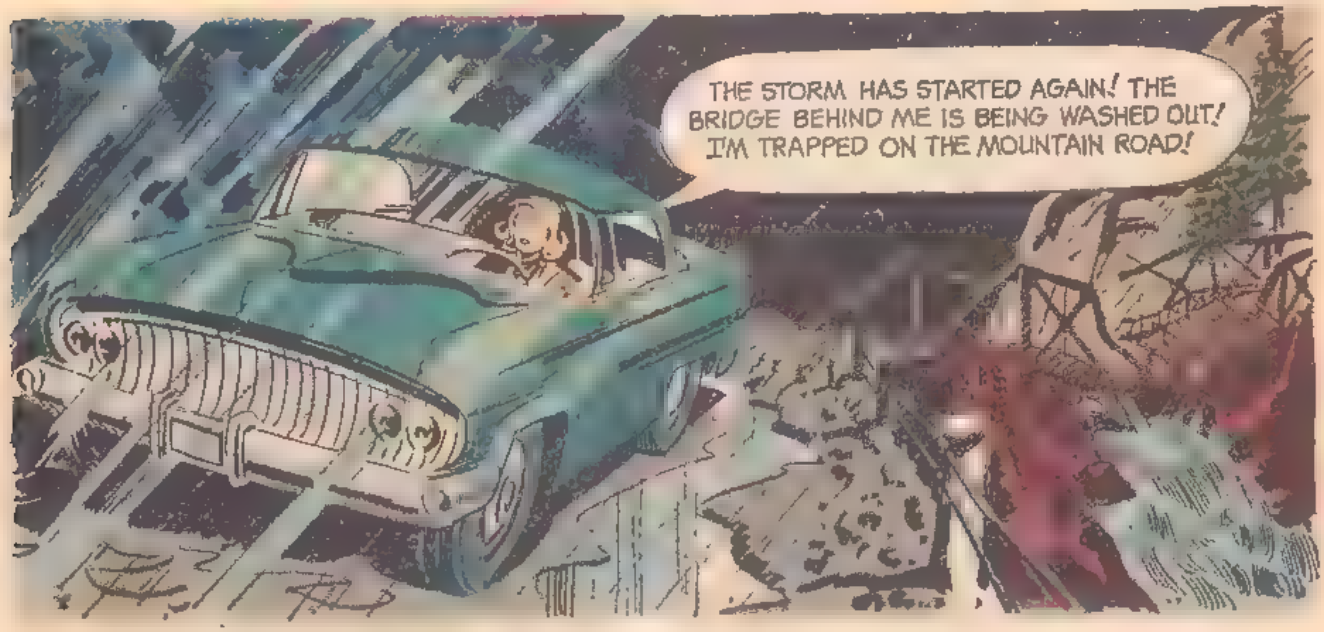

I'M NOT ALONE!-- I HAVE A *DOUBLE!*


INCRED BLE!--YOUR POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE CHARGES HAVE SEPARATED!

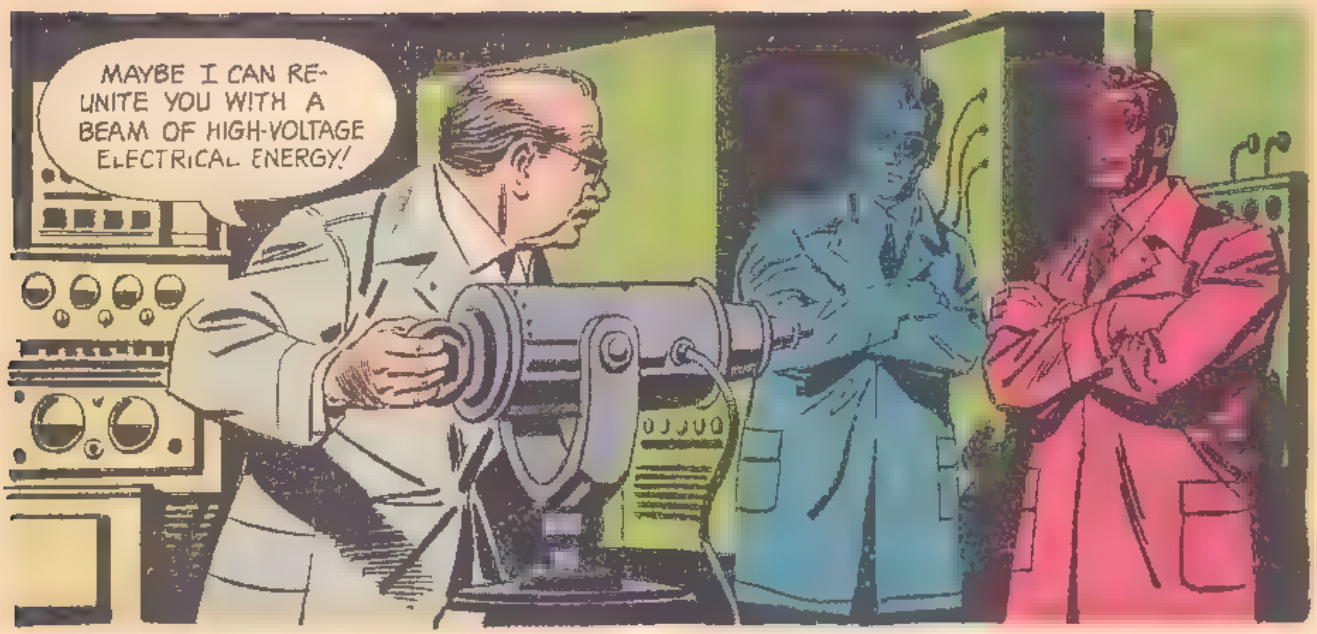

BUT--HOW?
THE INTENSE RADIOACTIVITY BEYOND THE ATMOSPHERE HAS PREVENTED YOUR COMPLETE CONVERSION BACK TO MATTER!

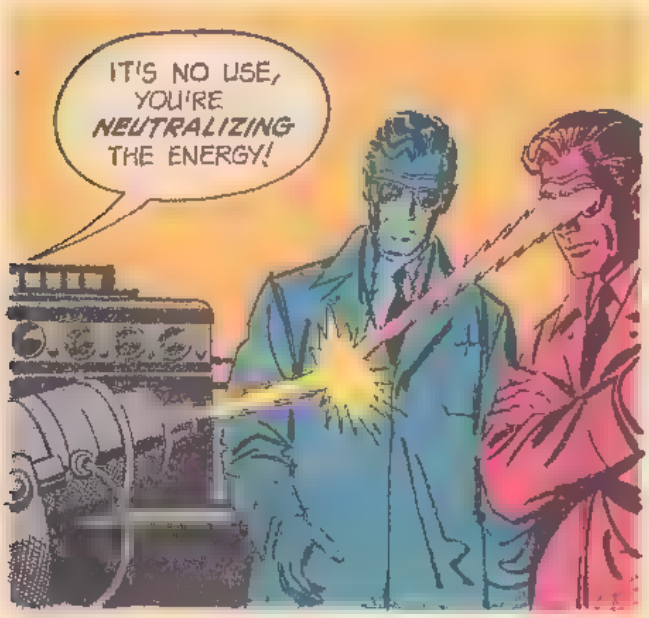

BUT I CAN'T EXIST THIS WAY -- HALF POSITIVE, HALF NEGATIVE!
OF COURSE NOT! BUT HOW CAN WE COMPLETE THE PROCESS OF CONVERTING YOUR ENERGY TO MATTER?

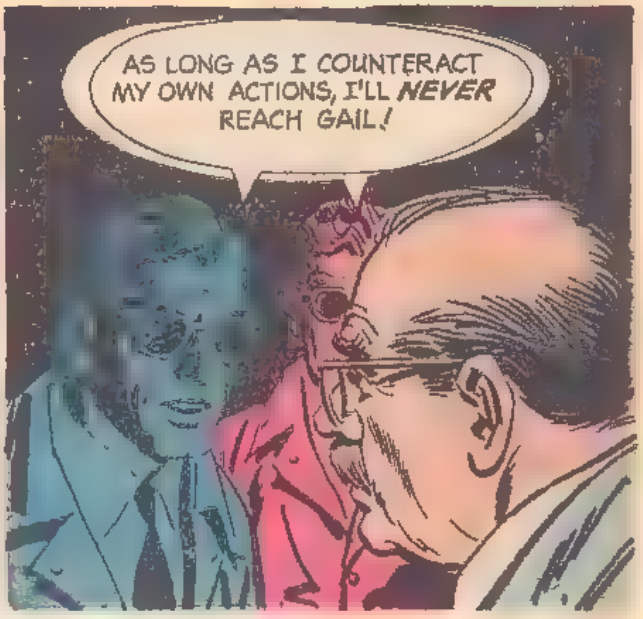

JUST THEN, AN URGENT CALL COMES IN ON THE RADIOPHONE
THIS IS GAIL, DR. CLARKSON! I'M IN TERRIBLE TROUBLE!

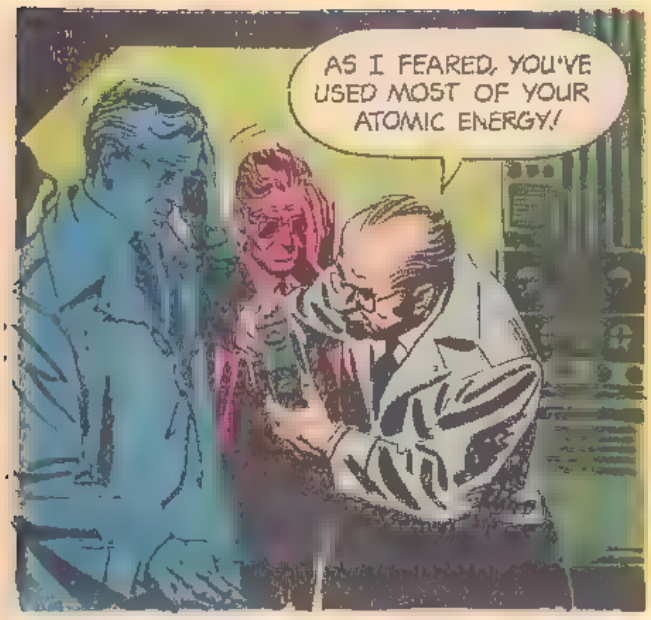

THE STORM HAS STARTED AGAIN! THE BRIDGE BEHIND ME IS BEING WASHED OUT! I'M TRAPPED ON THE MOUNTAIN ROAD!

STAY IN YOUR CAR--YOU'LL BE SAFE THERE!
NOT ANY MORE! HAILSTONES ARE COMING THROUGH THE WINDSHIELD!
I MUST HELP GAIL!--PERHAPS IF I GO AS LIGHT--
INCREDIBLE!--INSTEAD OF WHITE LIGHT, SOLAR IS SHOWING ONLY THE ENDS OF THE SPECTRUM!
AND AS THE TWO LIGHT BEAMS CROSS,
A MOMENT LATER, THE TWO SOLAR FIGURES AGAIN APPEAR ..
AS LONG AS YOU ARE IN THIS DOUBLE FORM--ANY ACTION YOU TAKE WILL BE NEUTRALIZED!
BUT I MUST HELP GAIL!


MAYBE I CAN RE-UNITE YOU WITH A BEAM OF HIGH-VOLTAGE ELECTRICAL ENERGY!

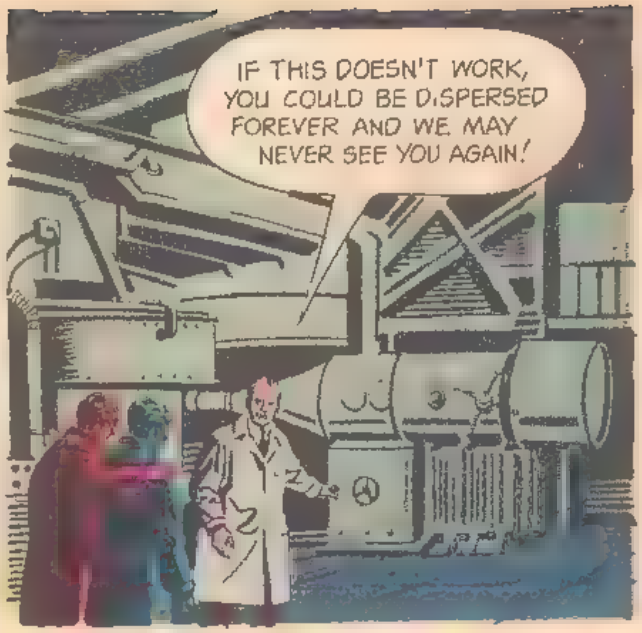

IT'S NO USE, YOU'RE NEUTRALIZING THE ENERGY!

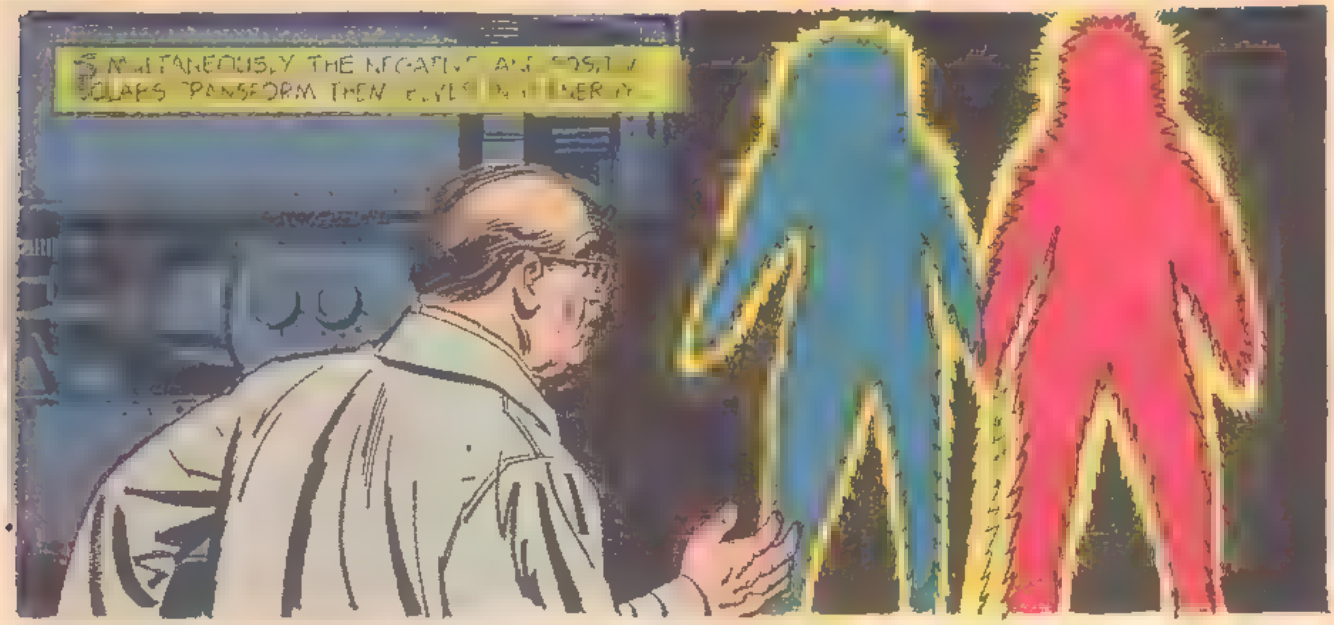

AS LONG AS I COUNTERACT MY OWN ACTIONS, I'LL NEVER REACH GAIL!

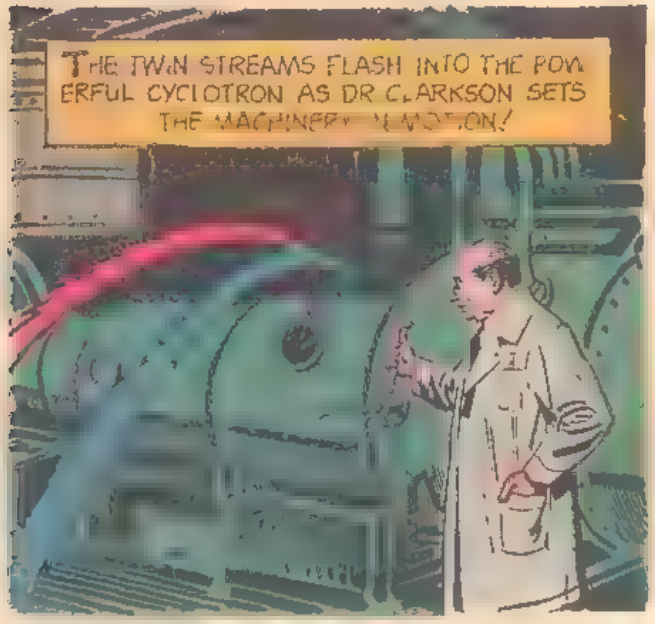

AS I FEARED, YOU'VE USED MOST OF YOUR ATOMIC ENERGY!

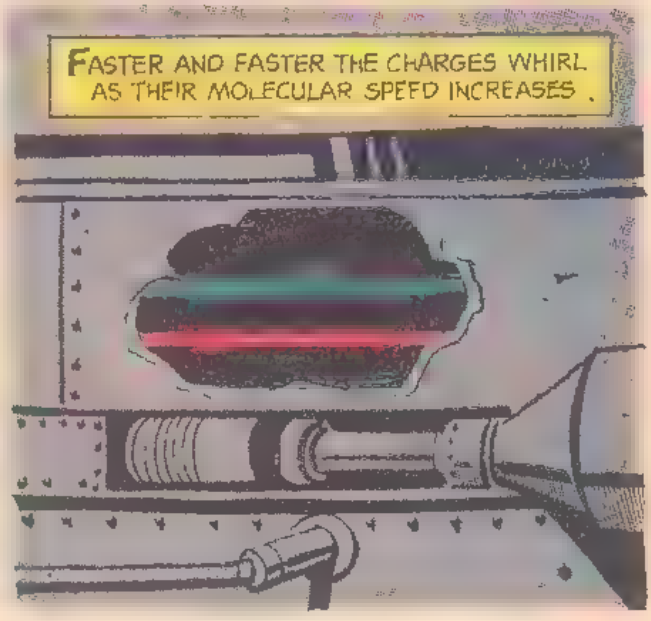
YOU'RE GETTING WEAK! --WE'VE GOT TO MOVE FAST!

IT'S TAKING A DESPERATE CHANCE, BUT WE'LL HAVE TO TRY THE CYCLOTRON!


IF THIS DOESN'T WORK, YOU COULD BE DISPERSED FOREVER AND WE MAY NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN!




THE TWIN STREAMS FLASH INTO THE POW ERFUL CYCLOTRON AS DR CLARKSON SETS THE MACHINERY IN MOTION!


FASTER AND FASTER THE CHARGES WHIRL AS THEIR MOLECULAR SPEED INCREASES .

AS DR. CLARKSON CUTS THE CONTROLS, ONLY ONE FLASH OF LIGHT STREAKS FROM THE HUGE MACHINE ..
THE LIGHT FLICKERS AND FADES, REFORMING INTO DR. SOLAR'S HUMAN SHAPE.
IT WORKED!
THE CYCLOTRON COMBINED THE NEGATIVE AND POSITIVE FORCES AS I'D HOPED! IT WAS A LONGSHOT, BUT IT WAS WORTH IT!
ONCE AGAIN, THE RADIOPHONE RINGS ..
DR. CLARKSON! THINGS ARE GETTING WORSE UP HERE! THE MOUNTAIN IS BEING COVERED WITH SNOW!
THE SNOW'S PILING UP! I'M GOING TO BE PUSHED OVER THE CLIFF!

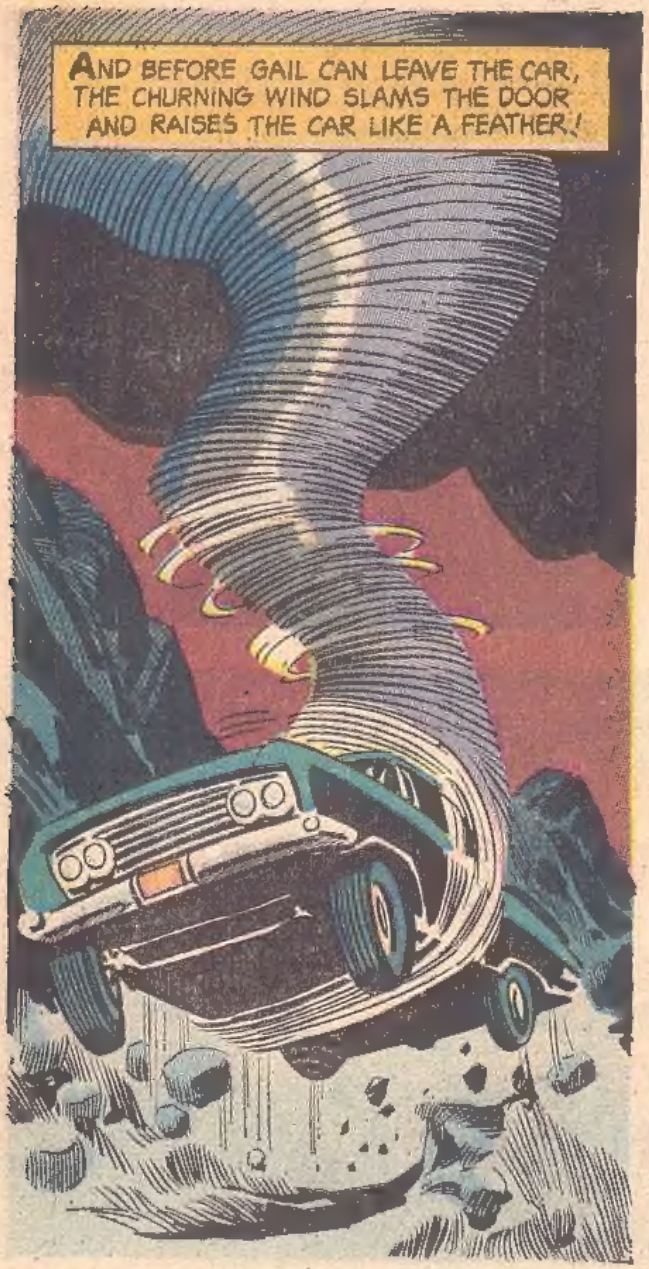
GAIL!-GAIL! - THE CONTACT HAS BEEN BROKEN!
LET'S SEE IF I CAN HELP HER NOW!

THE PHONE'S DEAD! I'D BETTER GET OUT OF HERE FAST!

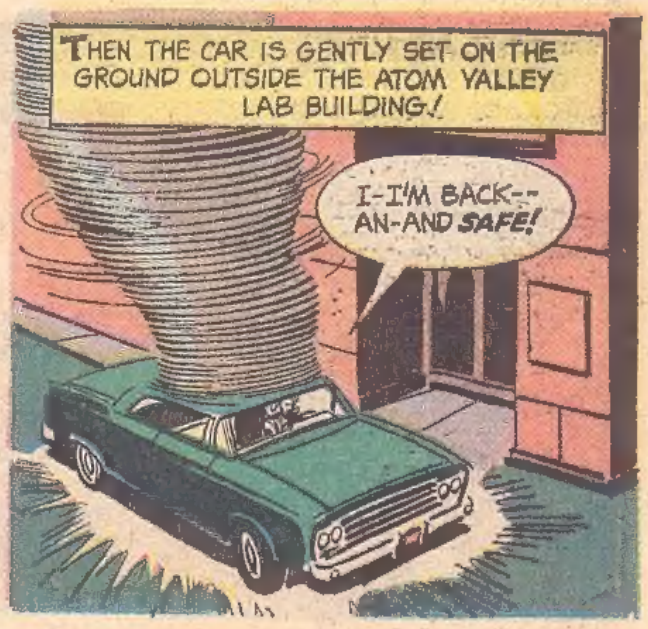
GOOD HEAVENS! --A TORNADO!

I'VE GOT TO TRY TO RUN OUT OF ITS PATH!

BUT THE ADVANCING TORNADO HAS A MIND AND A WILL! DR. SOLAR HAS CONCENTRATED HIS ENERGY INTO THE FANTASTIC WHIRLING WIND!
IF I DON'T KEEP GAIL INSIDE THE CAR, MY PLAN WON'T WORK!


AND BEFORE GAIL CAN LEAVE THE CAR, THE CHURNING WIND SLAMS THE DOOR AND RAISES THE CAR LIKE A FEATHER!

AROUND AND AROUND THE CAR SPINS, SUCKED INTO THE CENTER OF THE SWIRLING WIND...


THEN THE CAR IS GENTLY SET ON THE GROUND OUTSIDE THE ATOM VALLEY LAB BUILDING!
I-I'M BACK--AN-AND SAFE!

LATER, GAIL STAMMERS OUT HER STARTLING STORY...
I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT!--IT'S A MIRACLE!
WHATEVER IT WAS, GAIL, YOU'RE OUT OF DANGER!

BUT THE VALLEY'S STILL IN DANGER FROM OUR WEATHER SATELLITE!
THE SUNSPOT ACTIVITY HAS ENDED! MAYBE NOW THE SATELLITE CAN BE DESTROYED!

A MOMENT LATER, A RADIO SIGNAL LEAPS SKYWARD FROM ATOM VALLEY...
...AND HEADS DIRECTLY FOR THE WHIRLING SATELLITE!
THIS TIME, THE SIGNAL GETS THROUGH AND THE SATELLITE IS DESTROYED!
WHOOOSH!
MINUTES LATER, BACK AT ATOM VALLEY...
IT WORKED! NOW WE'RE READY TO BEGIN AGAIN!
--BUT NEXT TIME WE WON'T MAKE THE SAME MISTAKES!
LOOK, GAIL, THE STORM'S OVER! WHAT A BRILLIANT RAINBOW!
THERE'S NOTHING ARTIFICIAL ABOUT THAT!

KEYS OF KNOWLEDGE

The SEA

NUMBER 9

CORAL FORMATIONS

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This is one of a series of information features in Gold Key Comics. Collect the whole series for useful knowledge.

Coral is a soft, tiny sea creature found in tropical waters. When several coral fasten onto the sand or a rock, a colony is formed.

When one coral dies, others fasten onto its hardened skeleton. The mass builds until it rises above the water as a coral island.

There are several coral formations. When an island sinks and coral builds up from its underwater edges, an atoll is created.

When coral builds up close to an island, running parallel to its shore in shallow water it is called a fringing reef.

When the coral formation is separated from land by deep water it is called a barrier reef and can stretch over a thousand miles.

SOLAR PIN-UP NO. 3